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Street and Smith's **PRO Football**

Official Yearbook

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Advertising Manager

23rd year

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Here is a list of some of the biggest games of the season. CIRCLE THE TEAMS YOU THINK WILL WIN. Limit five entries per person. The deadline is SEPT. 27. All entries must be postmarked by that date.

SEPT. 28	UCLA AT WASHINGTON
SEPT. 30	CINCINNATI AT PITTSBURGH (NFL)
OCT. 5	FLORIDA AT LSU
OCT. 12	TEXAS - OKLAHOMA
OCT. 21	GREEN BAY AT CHICAGO
OCT. 26	USC AT NOTRE DAME
OCT. 28	SAN DIEGO AT LA RAIDERS
NOV. 2	BOSTON COLLEGE AT PENN ST.
NOV. 4	DALLAS AT ST. LOUIS
NOV. 11	SAN FRANCISCO AT DENVER
NOV. 16	AUBURN AT GEORGIA
NOV. 23	OHIO STATE AT MICHIGAN
NOV. 23	NEBRASKA AT OKLAHOMA
NOV. 28	N.Y. JETS AT DETROIT
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DEC. 9	LA RAMS AT SF

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TIE BREAKER: What NFL team will be the first to win 10 games this year?

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BETWEEN THE LINES

The San Francisco 49ers won their second Super Bowl in four years in 1985, defeating the Miami Dolphins, 38-16, in January. Their first championship, a 26-21 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals in 1982, marked the conclusion of the National Football League's most successful campaign.

In the time between the 49ers' two titles, the NFL has experienced a steady decline in its popularity—at least in the television ratings. Contributing factors put forth as explanations include the 57-day strike by the players in 1982, which shortened the regular season to nine games; competition for audiences with college football, which now airs more games than ever before, and for talent with the United States Football League, which is experiencing its own financial and legal difficulties as it struggles to survive; revelations of drug abuse in the sport; and simply too many dull or over-long contests.

That's the bad news. The good news is that the 1984 season was characterized by an extraordinary number of record-setting performances that helped to restore some of the missing excitement. Miami quarterback Dan Marino virtually rewrote the record book, setting the standards for completions, yardage, and touchdown passes. On the receiving end of many of his tosses was Mark Clayton, who caught more scoring passes than anyone in the game's history. Two other receivers made their mark a year ago: Charlie Joiner of the San Diego Chargers and Art Monk of the Washington Redskins became the career and single-season reception leaders, respectively. If there was excitement in the air, there were also some players who kept their feet on the ground. The Chicago Bears' Walter

Payton surpassed Jim Brown for the top spot on the rushing chart and the Los Angeles Rams' Eric Dickerson replaced O.J. Simpson as the single-season rushing leader. But James Wilder of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers created history on land and through the air. The NFL's busiest back, he set a record by running or receiving the ball 492 times.

The offensive players grabbed all the glamour, but it was left to the defense to decide the Super Bowl. For the second straight season a pair of cornerbacks provided the heroics in the championship game. In 1984, it was Mike Haynes and Lester Hayes of the Los Angeles Raiders who shut down the Redskin receivers; last year, it was Eric Wright and Ronnie Lott who nullified the Dolphins' explosive attack.

Football has become a year-round sport, what with the USFL opening its camps in the winter and concluding its season in mid-summer, just as the NFL is stirring. But USFL owners have voted to move to a fall schedule in 1986 and that will put the two leagues in direct competition. Just what the future holds for the new league is still uncertain, but the NFL has turned a covetous eye on Jim Kelly, Kelvin Bryant, Herschel Walker, Steve Young, Gary Anderson, and a host of other talented individuals in the USFL. The Los Angeles Rams, looking for immediate improvement, have turned to a defector from the Canadian Football League, quarterback Dieter Brock, who they hope will complement the talents of Dickerson.

Pete Rozelle celebrated his 25th anniversary as NFL commissioner by being elected to the pro football Hall of Fame. He is part of the class that also includes Roger Staubach, O.J. Simpson, Joe Namath, and Frank Gatski.

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NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE SCHEDULE 1985

Sunday, September 8

Denver at L.A. Rams
Detroit at Atlanta
Green Bay at New England
Indianapolis at Pittsburgh
Kansas City at New Orleans
Miami at Houston
New York Jets at L.A. Raiders
Philadelphia at New York Giants
St. Louis at Cleveland
San Diego at Buffalo
San Francisco at Minnesota
Seattle at Cincinnati
Tampa Bay at Chicago

Monday, September 9

Washington at Dallas (N)

Thursday, September 12

L.A. Raiders at Kansas City (N)

Sunday, September 15

Atlanta at San Francisco
Buffalo at New York Jets
Cincinnati at St. Louis
Dallas at Detroit
Houston at Washington
Indianapolis at Miami
L.A. Rams at Philadelphia
Minnesota at Tampa Bay
New England at Chicago
New Orleans at Denver
New York Giants at Green Bay
Seattle at San Diego

Monday, September 16

Pittsburgh at Cleveland (N)

Thursday, September 19

Chicago at Minnesota (N)

Sunday, September 22

Cleveland at Dallas
Denver at Atlanta
Detroit at Indianapolis
Houston at Pittsburgh
Kansas City at Miami
New England at Buffalo
N.Y. Jets vs. Green Bay (Milw.)
Philadelphia at Washington
St. Louis at New York Giants
San Diego at Cincinnati
San Francisco at L.A. Raiders
Tampa Bay at New Orleans

Monday, September 23

L.A. Rams at Seattle (N)

Sunday, September 29

Atlanta at L.A. Rams
Cleveland at San Diego
Dallas at Houston
Green Bay at St. Louis
Indianapolis at New York Jets
L.A. Raiders at New England
Miami at Denver
Minnesota at Buffalo
New Orleans at San Francisco
New York Giants at Philadelphia
Seattle at Kansas City
Tampa Bay at Detroit
Washington at Chicago
Tampa Bay at Detroit
Washington at Chicago

Monday, September 30

Cincinnati at Pittsburgh (N)

Sunday, October 6

Buffalo at Indianapolis
Chicago at Tampa Bay
Dallas at New York Giants (N)
Detroit at Green Bay
Houston at Denver
Kansas City at L.A. Raiders
Minnesota at L.A. Rams
New England at Cleveland
New York Jets at Cincinnati
Philadelphia at New Orleans
Pittsburgh at Miami
San Diego at Seattle
San Francisco at Atlanta

Monday, October 7

St. Louis at Washington (N)

Sunday, October 13

Atlanta at Seattle
Buffalo at New England
Chicago at San Francisco
Cleveland at Houston
Denver at Indianapolis
Detroit at Washington
Kansas City at San Diego
L.A. Rams at Tampa Bay
Minnesota vs. Green Bay (Milw.)
New Orleans at L.A. Raiders
New York Giants at Cincinnati
Philadelphia at St. Louis
Pittsburgh at Dallas

Monday, October 14

Miami at New York Jets (N)

Sunday, October 20

Cincinnati at Houston
Dallas at Philadelphia
Indianapolis at Buffalo
L.A. Raiders at Cleveland
L.A. Rams at Kansas City
New Orleans at Atlanta
New York Jets at New England
St. Louis at Pittsburgh
San Diego at Minnesota
San Francisco at Detroit
Seattle at Denver
Tampa Bay at Miami
Washington at New York Giants

Monday, October 21

Green Bay at Chicago (N)

Sunday, October 27

Atlanta at Dallas
Buffalo at Philadelphia
Denver at Kansas City
Green Bay at Indianapolis
Houston at St. Louis
Miami at Detroit
Minnesota at Chicago
New England at Tampa Bay
New York Giants at New Orleans
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati
San Francisco at L.A. Rams
Seattle at New York Jets
Washington at Cleveland

Monday, October 28

San Diego at L.A. Raiders (N)

Sunday, November 3

Chicago at Green Bay
Cincinnati at Buffalo
Cleveland at Pittsburgh
Denver at San Diego
Detroit at Minnesota
Kansas City at Houston
L.A. Raiders at Seattle
Miami at New England
New Orleans at L.A. Rams
New York Jets at Indianapolis
Philadelphia at San Francisco
Tampa Bay at New York Giants
Washington at Atlanta

Monday, November 4

Dallas at St. Louis (N)

Sunday, November 10

Atlanta at Philadelphia
Cleveland at Cincinnati
Dallas at Washington
Detroit at Chicago
Green Bay at Minnesota
Houston at Buffalo
Indianapolis at New England
L.A. Raiders at San Diego
L.A. Rams at New York Giants
New York Jets at Miami
Pittsburgh at Kansas City
St. Louis at Tampa Bay
Seattle at New Orleans

Monday, November 11

San Francisco at Denver (N)

Sunday, November 17

Buffalo at Cleveland
Chicago at Dallas
Cincinnati at L.A. Raiders
Kansas City at San Francisco
L.A. Rams at Atlanta
Miami at Indianapolis
Minnesota at Detroit
New England at Seattle
New Orleans vs. Green Bay (Milw.)
Pittsburgh at Houston
St. Louis at Philadelphia
San Diego at Denver
Tampa Bay at New York Jets

Monday, November 18

New York Giants at Washington (N)

Sunday, November 24

Atlanta at Chicago
Cincinnati at Cleveland
Denver at L.A. Raiders
Detroit at Tampa Bay
Green Bay at L.A. Rams
Indianapolis at Kansas City
Miami at Buffalo
New England at New York Jets
New Orleans at Minnesota
New York Giants at St. Louis
Philadelphia at Dallas
San Diego at Houston
Washington at Pittsburgh

Monday, November 25

Seattle at San Francisco (N)

Thursday, November 28

New York Jets at Detroit
St. Louis at Dallas

Sunday, December 1

Buffalo at San Diego
Cleveland at New York Giants
Denver at Pittsburgh
Houston at Cincinnati
Kansas City at Seattle
L.A. Raiders at Atlanta
L.A. Rams at New Orleans
Minnesota at Philadelphia
New England at Indianapolis
San Francisco at Washington
Tampa Bay at Green Bay

Monday, December 2

Chicago at Miami (N)

Thursday, December 5

Pittsburgh at San Diego (N)

Sunday, December 8

Atlanta at Kansas City
Cleveland at Seattle
Dallas at Cincinnati
Detroit at New England
Indianapolis at Chicago
L.A. Raiders at Denver
Miami at Green Bay
New Orleans at St. Louis
New York Giants at Houston
New York Jets at Buffalo
Tampa Bay at Minnesota
Washington at Philadelphia

Monday, December 9

L.A. Rams at San Francisco (N)

Saturday, December 14

Chicago at New York Jets
Kansas City at Denver

Sunday, December 15

Buffalo at Pittsburgh
Cincinnati at Washington
Green Bay at Detroit
Houston at Cleveland
Indianapolis at Tampa Bay
Minnesota at Atlanta
New York Giants at Dallas
Philadelphia at San Diego
St. Louis at L.A. Rams
San Francisco at New Orleans
Seattle at L.A. Raiders

Monday, December 16

New England at Miami (N)

Friday, December 20

Denver at Seattle (N)

Saturday, December 21

Pittsburgh at New York Giants
Washington at St. Louis

Sunday, December 22

Atlanta at New Orleans
Buffalo at Miami
Chicago at Detroit
Cincinnati at New England
Cleveland at New York Jets
Dallas at San Francisco
Green Bay at Tampa Bay
Houston at Indianapolis
Philadelphia at Minnesota
San Diego at Kansas City

Monday, December 23

L.A. Raiders at L.A. Rams (N)



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COMPUTER FOOTBALL STRATEGY

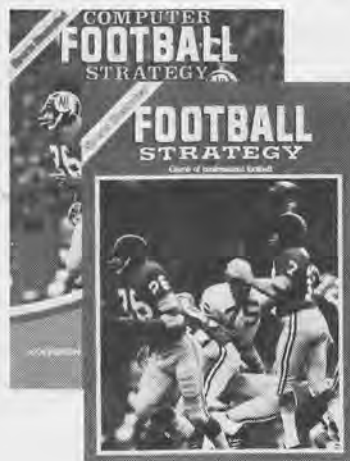
The same elements that have made the aforementioned **Football Strategy** game a classic now makes it an exciting computer game. The same inter-player competitive spirit inherent in the boardgame are reproduced for play on the Commodore 64, Atari and IBM systems. As a bonus, each program allows you to play **Computer Football Strategy** solitaire. It's YOU against the computer—which is programmed to play "smart," reacting intelligently to play-calling patterns and overcalls. Warning: you might be in need of a psychiatrist if you can't handle losing to a computer that always seems to be one step ahead of you in football strategy.

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● Just four years ago, at his annual state-of-the-league press conference preceding the Super Bowl, National Football League commissioner Pete Rozelle confessed that the league's biggest problem was that it had no major worries and therefore had to fight complacency.

Well, that's not a problem anymore. Rozelle could have used a flak jacket and a helmet to deal with the blows being thrown at him from all over the room at his press conference before Super Bowl XIX this past January. The NFL reeled through the 1984 season like a punch-drunk fighter, absorbing haymakers to its once unmarked image almost daily.

Television ratings fell for the third straight year, and ABC suffered a disastrous collection of mismatches and blowouts on Monday nights. There were continued drug-abuse revelations, ever-escalating salaries that produced red ink in a fraternity long used to fat profits, and competition for talent and a billion-dollar lawsuit from the United States Football League. In addition, Robert Irsay moved the proud Colt franchise from Baltimore to Indianapolis in the middle of the night, and Leonard Tose held Philadelphia hostage with a threat to transfer the Eagles to Phoenix. There were five changes in ownership in the span of a year, further sully the league's long-standing reputation for stability.

'84

But not all was gloom and doom—far from it. Though obscured somewhat by all the negative publicity, the heart of the NFL beat strongly last season. The game's essence is its players, and 1984 produced an unprecedented collection of brilliant, record-shattering performances by individuals—and one by a team. Prestigious, long-time standards fell in several categories.

Thus, for the NFL, 1984 was the best of times and the worst of times. Drum roll, please. Presenting the honor roll of record-setters:

Second-year quarterback Dan Marino of the Miami Dolphins made a mockery of the dictum that it takes years to master the game's toughest position. At the tender age of 23, Marino set season marks for completions (362), yardage (5,084), touchdown passes (48), 300-yard games (9), and 400-yard games (4). All but one record came at the expense of San Diego Charger field general Dan Fouts, who in 1981 established the standards for completions (360), yardage (4,802), 300-yard games (8), and 400-yard games (2). Y.A. Tittle, with the New York Giants in 1963, and George Blanda, with the Houston Oilers in 1961, had shared the touchdown-pass mark of 36.

Mark Clayton, a speedy, elusive 5-9 Dolphin receiver in his second pro campaign, caught a season-record 18 scoring tosses from Marino, breaking by one the mark shared by Elroy Hirsch (Los Angeles Rams, '51), Don Hutson (Green Bay Packers, '42), and Bill Groman (Houston, '61).

Walter Payton, the Chicago Bear running back known as "Sweetness," surpassed the rushing yardage (12,312) Jim Brown had gained in nine years with the Cleveland Browns. Payton's 1,684 yards a year ago gave him a total of 13,309 yards for his 10 seasons in the NFL.

Los Angeles Rams' sophomore Eric Dickerson broke O.J. Simpson's season rushing mark of 2,003 yards by amassing 2,105 yards on 379 carries.

James Wilder ran the ball 407 times for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, breaking the year-old record (390 carries) set by Dickerson.

San Diego Charger wideout Charlie Joiner, 37 and in his sixteenth season, became the game's all-time receiving leader by catching 61 passes. That raised his career total to 657 receptions, surpassing Charley Taylor's 649.

Wide receiver Art Monk of the Washington Redskins caught 106 passes to shatter the single-season standard of 101 set by Houston's Charlie Hennigan in 1964.

Finally, the Chicago Bears lived up to their nickname of "Monsters of the Midway" by recording 72 sacks, five more than the Oakland Raiders produced in 1967.

That's a remarkable set of achievements in one year. Now let's take a look at the men behind the numbers.

People ran out of superlatives to describe Marino. He ripped the Pittsburgh Steelers for 421 yards and four touchdowns in a 45-28 playoff victory that put the Dolphins in the Super Bowl. After the game, Pittsburgh coach Chuck Noll greeted his Miami counterpart, Don Shula, at midfield with a one-word accolade that neatly summed up the league consensus of Marino: "Wow!" said the usually low-key Noll.

When asked about the excellent blocking provided for Marino, Dolphin Pro Bowl guard Ed Newman replied, "That's easy with the mother lode four yards behind you." In just 30 pro games, Marino has thrown for 78 touchdowns and 8,488 yards. That's an average of 2.6 TDs and 282.6 yards per contest. The mother lode, indeed. And the Dolphins stole him. A relative offseason in Marino's senior year at the University of Pittsburgh scared off scouts, and, incredibly, five quarterbacks were selected before Miami grabbed him with the next-to-last pick in the first round of the 1983 draft. Yes, there are some red faces around the league.

Except for a lack of mobility, a flaw he negates with an uncanny ability to evade the pressure at just the last second, Marino has everything you'd look for in the ideal quarterback: the arm, the accuracy and touch, the ability to read defenses, the cool, the sense of command, and the quickest release in the league.

"His release is so low," marvels Shula. "He doesn't bring the ball up and throw with that long arm action. The ball's gone with a tremendous whip of the shoulders. He gets his whole body and legs into it. Boom!"

"Best quarterback I've ever seen, and I've never meant anything more in my life," said Terry Bradshaw of Marino. Many said the same thing about Bradshaw when he was playing for the Steelers. Whom would Bradshaw compare Marino to? "Secretariat," he answered.

Marino's favorite targets were the Mark brothers, Clayton and Duper, 5-9 book ends and burners on the flanks. Duper got all the publicity in 1983 when he emerged from obscurity to stardom in his second season. Last year, it was Clayton's turn. Together they became the first teammates to go over the 1,300-yard mark in one season, Clayton catching 73 passes for 1,389 yards and the record 18 touchdowns, and Duper grabbing 71 for 1,306 stripes and eight TDs. With two such threats, the Dolphins were murder to defend. Double one Mark, and the other killed you.

Clayton runs a 4.4 40, is steel-band tough, and has some fine moves, but his strongest suit is his outstanding leaping ability. On a dare one time at the University of Louisville, he jumped over a Ping-Pong table—lengthwise. Combine those physical skills with a flamboyant, cocky personality, a flair for showmanship, and a mouth that never quits and you've got what Shula calls "an explosion waiting to happen."

Occasionally, Clayton went boom on plays that should have been busts. "There were times when Mark was doubled and Dan threw it [the ball] up there anyway, and Mark made fantastic catches," said David Shula, Don's son and the Dolphins' receivers coach. "Those are funny because you review the film and write: 'Good route, great catch, poor choice by quarterback, touchdown.'"

Clayton, too, was a steal. The Dolphins got him in the same draft that produced Marino, in the eighth round because

continued

by BOB RUBIN MIAMI HERALD

A RECORD YEAR IN THE NFL



DAN MARINO



MARK CLAYTON



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this corner...**



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A RECORD YEAR IN THE NFL

other teams were put off by his size. That still grates on him. "I've been hearing that for too many years," he said. "You don't have to be big. All you need is a big heart." Hearts don't come any bigger than Walter Payton's. He broke Brown's mark with 154 yards on 32 carries against the New Orleans Saints at midseason. It was his 126th consecutive start, a number as impressive as his yardage total given the reckless abandon with which he hurls his 5-10, 202-pound body against men 60 or 70 pounds heavier. "It's his legs," said Washington Redskins' general manager Bobby Beathard. "He's got the strongest legs I've ever seen. They're like springs. If he had played on good teams . . . oh, my gosh, I don't know what he would have done."

"Walter runs with a fever," said teammate Al Harris. That fever rages unabated after 10 seasons, remarkable considering the mortality rate of NFL running backs.

"I had my 11,000-mile tune-up in the offseason [arthroscopic surgery on both knees], and I feel great," Payton admitted. "The way you think is the way you are, and I think I'm 23." Payton's sights are now set on 15,000 yards, but teammate Brian Baschnagel believes his goal should be 20,000.

"What he's going to do is put the career record so far out there, yours truly won't have a chance," said Dallas Cowboy running back Tony Dorsett, whose 9,525 yards in eight seasons make him one of the few runners with even a remote shot at catching Payton. "You can't overemphasize what Walter's done," marveled Dorsett. "You can't make too big a flap over it."

A huge flap is just what Payton deserves. For too many years, his accomplishments were taken for granted as the Bears labored in obscurity with a one-gun attack. Though he's not an egotist—far from it—Payton admitted the lack of recognition bothered him.

"I look at it from this standpoint," he said: "I've paid my dues to the game of football and I've had some pretty good years, but, more or less, I've been in the background. The press has a way of focusing on certain individuals who are real flashy, real outgoing, real flamboyant. I tend not to be a flashy guy. A new runner would come into the league and he would be hailed as the next great back. It makes you wonder. But what I have accomplished now overshadows anything else in my personal life and my background. Times are changing. Like they say, what goes around, comes around. I guess my turn has come around."

Eric Dickerson didn't have to wait for a turn. He burst into the NFL like a comet with 1,808 yards as a rookie, and was even more brilliant in his second season. His two-year total of 3,913 yards easily topped the previous two-season high of 3,631 yards set by Houston's Earl Campbell. It earned him the ultimate compliment. "He can be the best ever," said O.J. Simpson, who not only lost his season yardage record to the rambling Ram but also his share of the mark for most 100-yard games. He and Campbell did it 11 times; Dickerson went over the century mark 12 times last season, and twice rushed for more than 200 yards.

Dickerson squeezed the Juice out of the record book with a flourish, gaining 215 yards in the next-to-last game against the Oilers. Afterwards, Rams' coach John Robinson shook his head and said: "It's shocking how good he is. Really shocking." Robinson employs the same philosophy Paul Brown used with Jimmy Brown. That is, if you have a big gun, fire it. Dickerson has carried the ball 769 times in two years, but he isn't complaining he's overworked. "I'm young and strong," he said. "I'm 24 and I'm able to carry it a lot. When

I'm 30, I won't be as eager, so give it to me now." Robinson happily complies.

And opponents wince. "He runs at full speed from the time he gets the ball," said Curtis Greer of the St. Louis Cardinals, who yielded 208 yards to Dickerson. "Then he has another gear when he sees daylight." Simpson likens that acceleration to "Captain Kirk asking Scotty for warp speed."

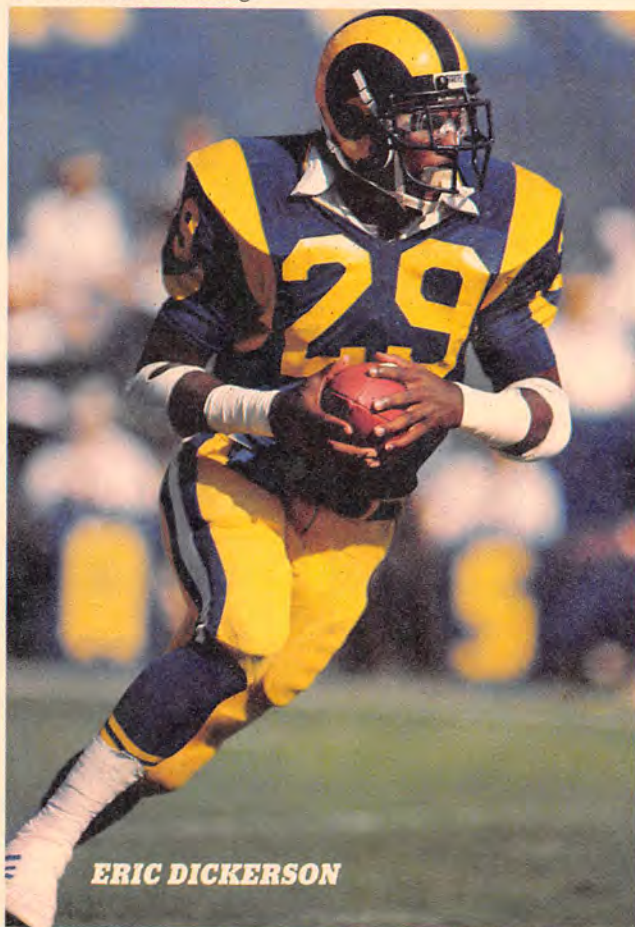
Consider these numbers: Dickerson weighs 220 pounds; he ran the 100 in 9.2 in high school. "He's a freak of nature," said teammate Dennis Harrah. "God hasn't created many like him. That's why we use him so much."

When Dickerson can't run around a tackler, he'll run over him. "He's so physical," said Bruce Snyder, coach of the Rams' running backs. "In those final six inches before a tackle, he'll explode for five of those inches. Bam! When he straightens up and sticks his chest out, I know he's seen where he wants to go. That's when I say, 'Uh-oh, something good is about to happen.'"

While Dickerson was setting one record a year ago, he was losing another, to James Wilder. A powerful, obviously durable 6-3 and 225 pounds, Wilder, a fourth-year pro, earned the admiration of his teammates as much for his attitude as for his ability. His enthusiasm and effort never flag, even in the doldrums of practice.

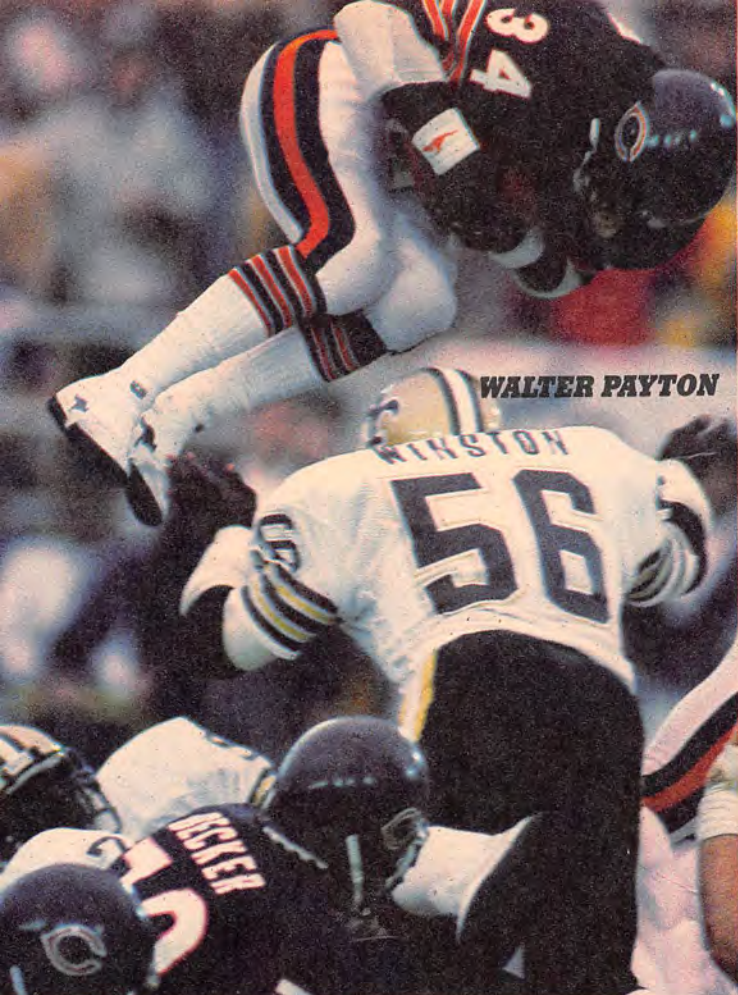
"Most guys put in on cruise control, but not James," said Buc fullback Adger Armstrong.

As for his running, another Buc back, Scott Dierking, likens Wilder to Jim Brown. "He doesn't go down unless someone gets a good shot on him," Dierking said. "He's always scrapping. God doesn't make many bodies like that. You combine that with extreme competitiveness—plus he's a nice guy—and you have a rare breed. And I've never seen a guy who can run the ball 40 times and look as fresh as the rest of us who have done nothing."



ERIC DICKERSON

Mel Bailey



WALTER PAYTON

Al Kooistra

Wilder set his standard with size, speed, and muscle. Charlie Joiner, physically unimpressive at 5-11 and 185 pounds and no speed merchant anymore, earned his place in the record book with his head.

"He's the most intelligent receiver the game has ever known, the smartest, the most calculating," said San Francisco 49ers' coach Bill Walsh, an assistant with the Cincinnati Bengals when Joiner played there (1973-75). "He could come off the field and tell me what had happened on the other side. He could get on the phone and talk about coverages on the far side. I don't know how he did it, a kind of extra sense, I guess."

He's always had it. "Genius. Charlie was a genius at the passing game," said Eddie Robinson, who coached Joiner at Grambling. "He brought it with him. Willie Brown, who was with the Oakland Raiders at the time, used to come back to Grambling to work with our defensive backs. But he'd also keep Charlie out after practice and work on covering him one-on-one. One day, Willie told me: 'Coach, I'm getting as much out of this as the kids. If I can cover Charlie, I can cover anybody in the NFL.'"

Joiner has become the Chargers' prime possession receiver, the guy they like to go to on third down. When the strike-shortened 1982 season resumed, each of Joiner's first 17 receptions produced a first down. Dan Fouts calls him "my security blanket."

Joe Theismann feels the same way about Art Monk. In a season in which the Redskin receiving corps was decimated by injuries, Monk was "always there to count on," said Theismann, the Skins' quarterback.

There was little reason to suspect that Monk would blossom into a record setter. A running back at Syracuse, he was converted to wide receiver. Though a solid performer, his four-year numbers gave no hint of the glory to come in 1984. In '83, for example, he caught 47 passes. Monk has excep-

tional speed for a man 6-3 and 209 pounds. He can burn by a cornerback to catch a bomb on one play, then line up at tight end and block a linebacker on the next. In fact, Redskins' receivers coach Charley Taylor (yes, the same man whose career record Joiner broke) often praised Monk's blocking more than his pass catching. He was at tight end when he caught his 102nd pass of the season to break Hennigan's mark. It was one of 11 he caught for 136 yards and two touchdowns in a thrilling, season-closing 29-27 victory over the Cardinals that put the Redskins in the playoffs. And though Washington's dream of a third straight appearance in the Super Bowl died in a 23-19 playoff loss to the Bears, Monk could hardly be blamed. He caught 10 passes for 122 yards against Chicago, ending his record season on an appropriately high note.

"Art's year was the most valuable contribution to his team I've ever seen by a wide receiver," Redskins' coach Joe Gibbs said.

The Redskins would have been Super Bowl-bound again had it not been for a fierce Bears' pass rush that sacked Theismann seven times and had him running for his life throughout the game. It was brutal but typical of the league's best defense, an exotic blend of the cerebral and the physical concocted by defensive coordinator Buddy Ryan. The whole idea is to confuse opposing offenses, and it worked so well that a Buffalo assistant coach came up to Bears' strong safety Todd Bell after a preseason game and said: "We couldn't even put together a scout team of you to practice against. We can't figure out what you guys do out there."

"What we're proving is that it's possible to think and play defense at the same time," said Bears' All-Pro middle linebacker Mike Singletary, nicknamed "Samurai" for his bloodcurdling screams when making contact.

The Bears run 80 "plays" on defense off three-man, four-man, and five-man fronts. Against the Raiders last year, they used 18 different coverages, 10 different fronts, and countless blitzes. The result: nine sacks and a 17-6 victory. It was a rare occasion when the big, bad Raiders got a taste of their own medicine.

"It's difficult for the quarterbacks to read and hard on the offensive linemen, who sometimes don't know who to block," chortled Ryan, whose defensive game plan runs 60 pages. When linemen are that confused, the quarterback is in trouble deep, especially against the studs the Bears send after him. Defensive end Richard Dent, 6-5 and 253, led the Sack Pack with 17½; tackle Dan Hampton, 6-5 and 266, had 11½; and tackle Steve McMichael, 6-2 and 260, had 10.

"Subconsciously, anybody who plays us has to have it in the back of his mind, 'These guys are monsters,'" McMichael said.

Record-setting monsters.

With the bad news Bears sacking and pillaging, Marino going to Clayton deep, Payton, Dickerson, and Wilder running into the record book, and Joiner and Monk catching passes by the bushel, the NFL came through its season of discontent battered but unbowed. As long as it has players the caliber of those above, the league will remain king of team sports to the American public.



JAMES WILDER

Vic Miller

THEY'VE CORNERED THE MARKET IN PASS DEFENSE

Mention the word cornerbacks to the average sports fan and he is likely to hear "quarterbacks." Such as: "Good cornerbacks can take you to the Super Bowl."

"Yes, every team needs a Dan Marino or Joe Montana."

"No, I said *cornerbacks*."

Cornerbacks do more than fill in around the edges. They always have been on the spot, usually chasing someone back into the corner of an end zone, but now their place is center stage. Despite rules that have threatened to make them mere props, they are demanding equal billing with wide receivers. They are grabbing attention as they grab for the ball that is so often in the air.

Good cornerbacks can win Super Bowls.

Montana should have sliced off generous pieces of his Most Valuable Player award in Super

Bowl XIX for San Francisco cornerbacks Eric Wright and Ronnie Lott. You can be sure that Marino couldn't forget them after they limited Miami's All-Pro receivers Mark Clayton and Mark Duper to seven catches and no touchdowns.

"Throughout the whole week, we knew that would be the key. [The game] would be determined on what kind of day we had," said Wright.

"Eric had a great day," said Lott.

"He has lived in my shadow for the past two years, so he's finally going to get his due."

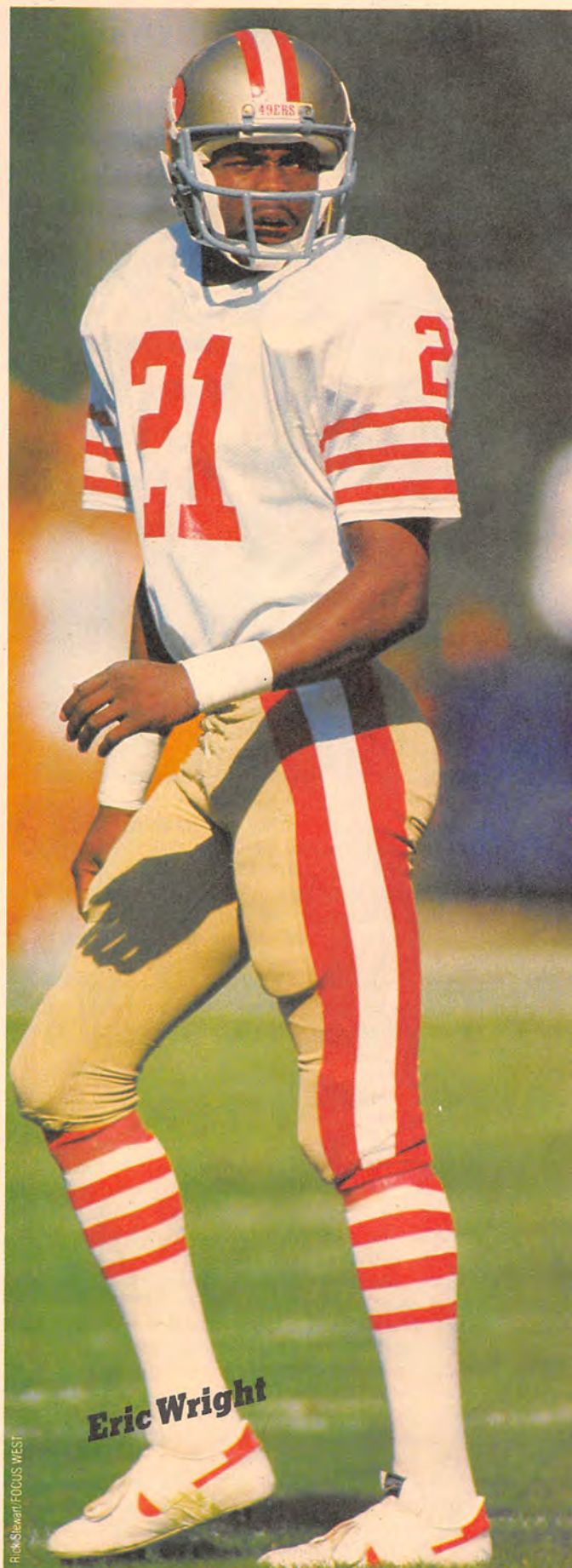
Wright actually began to collect his laurels four days before the game when he replaced the injured New York Giants' cornerback Mark Haynes on the Pro Bowl roster. Thus he joined all three of his San Francisco teammates in the all-star defensive backfield: Lott, strong safety Carlton Williamson, and free safety Dwight Hicks. Wright's reputation preceded the announcement. He was having the best year of anyone in the 49er secondary and probably any cornerback in football, so his late addition to the Pro Bowl roster only saved the league embarrassment.

In the Super Bowl, Wright snuffed Marino's last gasp at respectability with a leaping interception against Clayton at the goal line. At the time, the score was already the final 38-16, but with five minutes left in the third quarter and the awesome Miami passing attack on the field, Wright's play represented an ending point if not a turning point. With Clayton a step ahead of Wright and Marino's pass apparently on the money, Wright would have been praised for knocking down the ball. When he intercepted it, he lowered the curtain and raised consciousness. These guys aren't hoops for an aerial circus to be used and abused, set on fire and burned by wealthy, acrobatic receivers; they are athletes of consummate skill and grace who can make great catches without

continued

**Good
quarterbacks
can lead
their teams
to the
Super Bowl,
where great
cornerbacks
decide
who wins it.**

by DON PIERSON CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Eric Wright

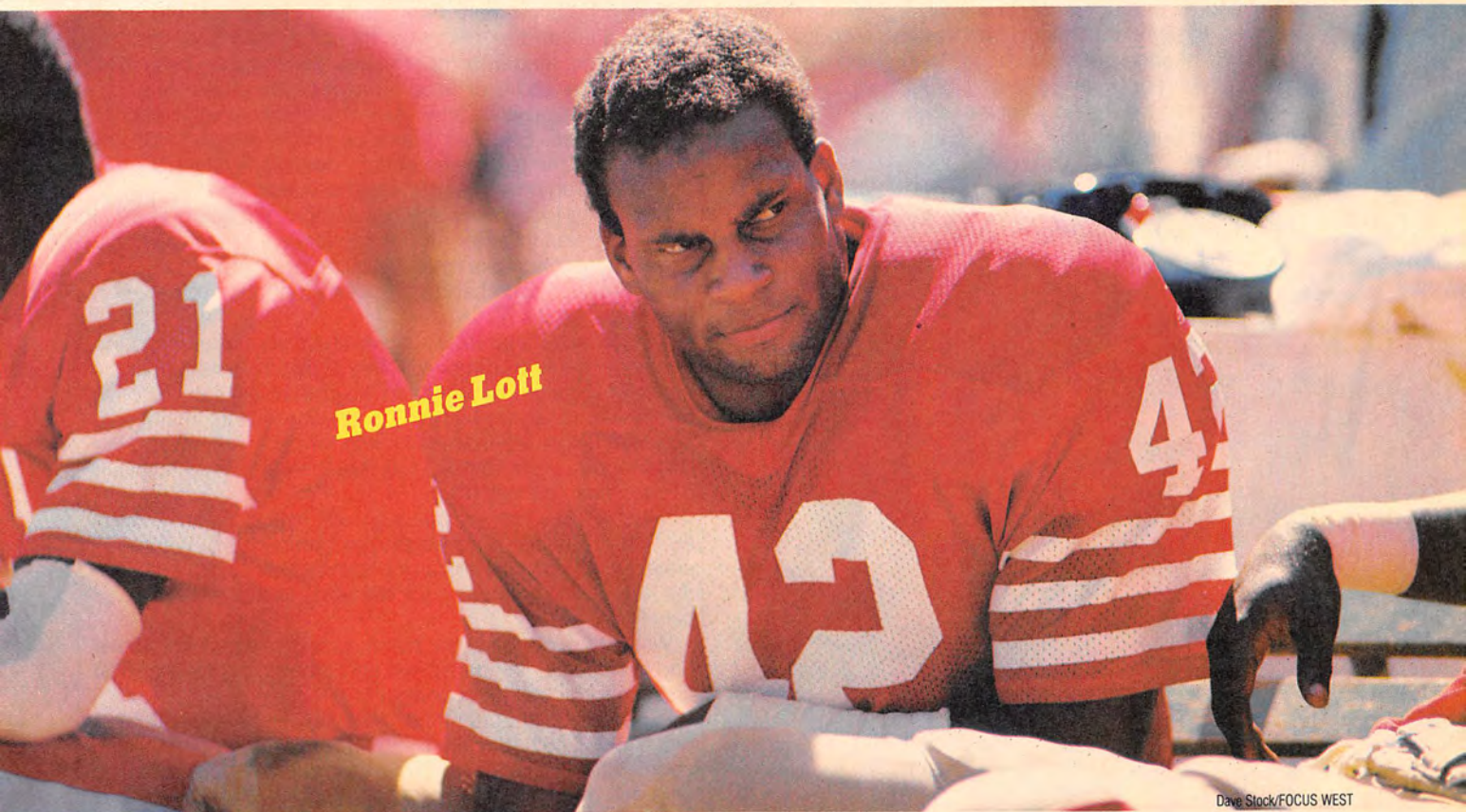
PHOTOGRAPH BY RICK STEWART/FOCUS WEST



Lester Hayes

Mike Haynes

Ron Haase/FOCUS WEST



Ronnie Lott

Dave Stock/FOCUS WEST

THEY'VE CORNERED THE MARKET IN PASS DEFENSE

knowing the plays ahead of time. They are more than reactors who are part of the act; they can make a difference in your team.

The year before, Los Angeles Raiders' cornerbacks Mike Haynes and Lester Hayes held the Washington Redskins' receivers Charlie Brown, Alvin Garrett, and Art Monk to just five catches in the Raiders' 38-9 romp in Super Bowl XVIII.

The evidence goes far beyond two games or even two Super Bowls. In Super Bowl XVII, Washington cornerbacks Vernon Dean and Jeris White helped hold Miami receivers Jimmy Cefalo and Duriel Harris to only four catches from quarterback David Woodley. White overrated his value in that confrontation and held out for more money than the Redskins cared to pay, but even the lowly financial status of the defensive back is changing. Though they have ranked ahead of only kickers on the National Football League salary scale, the defensive backs have seen their average pay jump from \$68,700 to \$137,000 in the 1980s. Now they are only \$10,000 behind the wide receivers and gaining ground despite playing rules that have discouraged pass defenders from even touching the glamorous pass catchers.

The worth of the cornerbacks was demonstrated in 1981 when the 49ers made Lott their No. 1 draft choice and Wright their No. 2. Along with No. 3 choice Williamson at strong safety, the 49ers started three rookies in their backfield and turned around a pass defense that ranked 27th in the league in 1980 to win Super Bowl XVI the following season. Two years later, the Raiders presented even more dramatic testimony to the growing importance of the cornerback. Already armed with one of the best in the business in Hayes, they pillaged the whole league by raiding Haynes from the New England Patriots to form a pair that helped win a Super Bowl. The Patriots didn't want to pay Haynes a whole lot more than the \$210,000 he had made in 1982, even though he was recognized as one of the best defensive players in football and even though the Patriots themselves recognized the importance of good defensive backs by drafting five of them in the first round between 1976 and 1980.

"I just wanted to be paid what the better defensive players in the league were getting," said Haynes.



Frank Minnifield

The Raiders made a deal for Haynes and paid him \$1.2 million for three years. Like the 49ers before them, they immediately jumped from 27th in pass defense to a Super Bowl victory. It was Raiders' boss Al Davis who engineered the coup, proving he can beat his colleagues out of court as well as in. They all should have known. In 1967, Davis stole cornerback Willie Brown from the Denver Broncos in a trade, and Brown displayed his old American Football League "bump-and-run" technique so convincingly to the NFL that he ended up in the Hall of Fame. It was also Davis who made Lester Hayes a fifth-round draft choice from Texas A&M, where he played linebacker and was projected as a strong safety by everyone except Davis, who noticed "his explosion" and converted him to the corner.

In his book, former Raiders' coach John Madden relates only one serious conflict he had with Davis throughout their years together. "Al always thought that you built a team with cornerbacks and I always thought you built a team with offensive linemen," Madden wrote. "Cornerbacks," he would say. "You start with cornerbacks." "No, no," I would say. "You start with offensive linemen." We argued that for ten years, but it never developed into a serious difference of opinion for a very simple reason. I agreed that cornerbacks were the second-most important position in building a team and Al agreed that offensive linemen were second."

Cornerbacks were practically ruled illegal in 1978 when the club owners decided the game needed more scoring to become more exciting. They put the Willie Browns and the bump-and-run out of business by limiting the defender's contact with a receiver to one hit within five yards of the line of scrimmage.

"You used to be able to run 'ax' techniques and things like that on fast receivers to slow them down to your caliber of play," said Bears' defensive coordinator Buddy Ryan. "A little guy used to be scared to come across the middle. Now, if he gets by five yards, he's a brave guy."

Speed became more dangerous than skill and harder to stop. But instead of rendering the cornerback obsolete, the rule change rendered the species an absolute necessity. Football is a game of action and reaction. Defenses constantly catch up with offenses, which constantly catch up with defenses. Because the rules made it harder to play cornerback, the result was better cornerbacks. Like insecticide encouraging a stronger strain of insect.

According to Dallas coach Tom Landry, the bump-and-run technique was invented out of necessity, not convenience. "The AFL cornerbacks used the bump-and-run because of a lack of ability," said Landry. "It was an attempt to cover up their weaknesses."

Cornerbacks unable to run with receivers often included forearms in their repertoire. Rules allowed contact until the ball left the quarterback's hand, so cornerbacks would push and shove receivers all the way down the field. Ryan, who coached under Weeb Ewbank with the Jets, remembers the first Monday night football telecast between the Cleveland Browns and Jets in 1970.

"We had two rookies playing cornerback, Earle Thomas and Steve Tannen, and we played bump-and-run. The officials didn't know how to call it because they hadn't seen it in the NFL. So we got penalized 160 yards and got beat 31-21," said Ryan.

Without the crutch of the bump, today's cornerbacks have had to hone two things: speed and a gambling instinct. The first cannot be taught or bought.

"Speed is so important, because they've taken away most of the tools you had in the past," said Washington defensive coordinator Richie Petitbon. "Consequently, you've had to fall back on sheer athletic ability. You almost have to have guys who can run 4.5 in order to play that position."

continued

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THEY'VE CORNERED THE MARKET IN PASS DEFENSE

Every team would like to have at least three of them to cover the offensive sets which sometimes feature three or four wide receivers. "But even if you have only one 'blue' corner, that is, one who is a great man-to-man coverer, it increases everything you can do on defense," said pro talent evaluator Mike Giddings.

"It's nice to have just one that you can tell, 'O.K. See you after the game,'" said New York Giants' coach Bill Parcells.

When the Giants' best, Mark Haynes, was injured and forced out of action late in a game against the St. Louis Cardinals last season, momentum shifted immediately. With the score tied at 14, the Cardinals faced fourth down and 5. Neil Lomax threw a 35-yard touchdown pass to Roy Green, who had been contained by Haynes, and the Cardinals went on to win, 31-21.

"When you have one great one, you don't ever throw to that side," said Cleveland coach Marty Shottenheimer. "The other corner, who may be average, is reduced to less than average because they throw at him all the time." That happened to the Raiders' Hayes last year when teams stayed away from Haynes.

For the Browns, a good defense became better the day Frank Minnifield stepped in at cornerback opposite Hanford Dixon. "I remember when they put in the rule limiting contact in 1978," said Shottenheimer. "Chuck Noll thought it would create more man-to-man and tight coverage, more bump-and-run. He was right. With the acquisition of Frank Minnifield, who brought the bump-and-run with him, that helped us significantly."

When Shottenheimer speaks of the bump-and-run today, it's with emphasis on the run, because the bump is limited to one in the first five yards. "After that, it's like a dog chasing a rabbit," said Bears' personnel director Bill Tobin. "Every time he turns, you turn." That particular breed of dog is hard for scouts like Tobin to find. "Defensive backs can't keep up with what is being asked of them," said Tobin. "It's tough to shut a guy out for 40 or 50 minutes. You might win 90 percent of the time, but the other 10 percent, you give up 21 points."

That's why more cornerbacks become gamblers, like Lott or Dallas's Everson Walls, who want to score as many times as they are scored against. "Walls says, 'You got one, now I'm going to get one,'" said Dallas personnel director Gil Brandt. "Everybody picks on him, but it doesn't bother him."

"You have to have a short memory to play the corner," said Shottenheimer.

In Super Bowl XIX, Wright might have been ecstatic merely to keep Clayton out of the end zone. Instead, he demonstrated the mentality of the true "blue" corner. "I was in bump-and-run, and I got a good piece of him at the line," Wright said. "It knocked him off his pattern. I turned my head just as the ball came. Normally, I'd try to knock it down. But I wasn't going to let him be more aggressive than me."

The increased significance of having good corners is reflected in the draft. In the first five drafts of the 1980s, 19 teams selected defensive backs in the first round. In the five drafts before that, only 10 teams thought it was necessary to select a defensive back in the first round. Last year, the Los Angeles Rams made an effort to keep up with the Raiders in their neighborhood and traded their first-round pick to the Kansas City Chiefs for cornerback Gary Green.

"He was the best, by far, first-round choice in the draft this year," said coach John Robinson. "I'd give up my first-round pick every year for players like Gary Green. He's better than a first-rounder because he's not only talented, he's experienced. He's an All-Pro."

Green wasted no time demonstrating the confidence that is as vital to his position as speed. "I think I'm the best all-around cornerback in the league," he said. "Being a good

cornerback is not just covering wide receivers and knocking down passes and getting interceptions. It's also tackling and forcing the run."

"I think our skill position ranks right up there with the quarterback position," said Lott.

"Unquestionably, the toughest position," added Mike Haynes.

The United States Football League helped emphasize the value of the cornerback last year when the Memphis Showboats outbid the San Diego Chargers and the Indianapolis Colts for the top two cornerbacks selected in the NFL draft: Mossy Cade and Leonard Coleman. Cade was the sixth pick, Coleman the eighth. Both were offered NFL contracts of approximately \$1.7 million for four years. The USFL paid each in the vicinity of \$2 million.

Buddy Ryan thinks the price is worth it. Despite coordinating a fierce Bears' defense that led the league last year with spectacular statistics, Ryan has begged his personnel people for more and better cornerbacks. The Bears set a record for sacking quarterbacks, and nearly all their pressure came off blitzes. The assumption is that the Bears' cornerbacks were good enough to cover man-to-man while the blitzers gambled, but Ryan says that is not true.

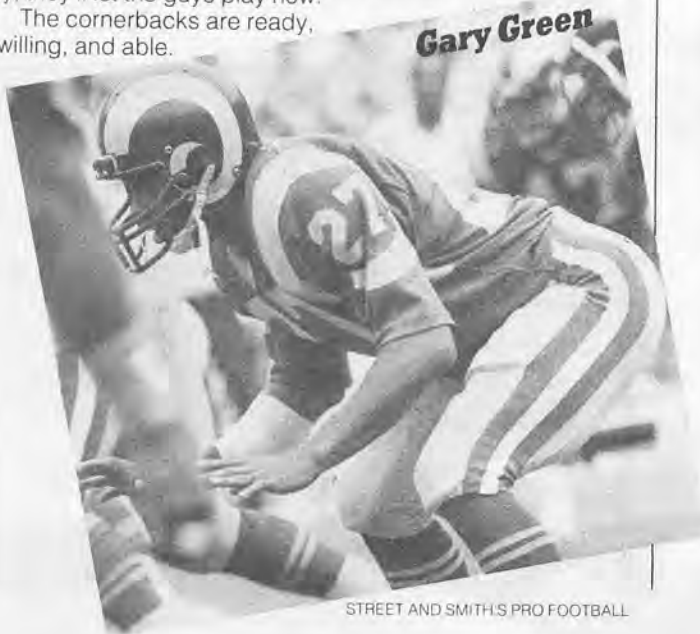
"We play a lot of man, but never straight man. We're always helping our corners. We put a lot of pressure on our linebackers," said Ryan. "When we blitz, we feel we're going to get pressure or we're going to get beat because we're not that good on the corner."

Ryan wants his cornerbacks to bump receivers in the five-yard zone. "We hit them as well as anybody in the league and we still don't do a good job of it," said Ryan. "If it was easy, everybody would be doing it. Guys would be coming off the street doing it. Nothing's easy in this league."

Cornerbacks would argue that nothing's fair either, but a new rule change for this season might finally give the defense a well-deserved break. The stiff pass-interference rule has been liberalized to give the defender a better shot at the ball. Depending on how officials interpret the rule, cornerbacks and their sidekicks could be encouraged to get more aggressive. The new rule states that if a receiver and a defender are both looking for the ball, an official cannot penalize the defender for contact "no matter how severe." The rule is designed to eliminate "cheap" 50- and 60-yard penalties called for incidental contact or tripping.

"I think it's great," said Petitbon. "It will bring back some semblance of defense. The way it is now, they let you get away with more in the NBA than they do in the NFL. Hopefully, they'll let the guys play now."

The cornerbacks are ready, willing, and able.



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There is still a lot of little boy in him, even though the public image reveals none of it. To Pete Rozelle, he is the kid who reads box scores more than he is the corporate executive studying the bottom line of a balance sheet. He is an enthusiastic fan more than he is a man who shapes the history of sport. He is the same person who was as thrilled to make 60 cents an hour in his first job with the National Football League as he is to be one of the highest paid business executives in the nation as its commissioner.

Alvin Pete Rozelle goes into the pro football Hall of Fame as part of the class of 1985 even though he has never blocked or tackled anyone in his life. But he doesn't have to take a back seat to any of the legendary figures of the game who will surround him in the Hall.

"Pete Rozelle has done more for pro football than any man in history, including George Halas," says Art Rooney, the 85-year-old owner of the Pittsburgh Steelers who goes back to the roots of the game. "George was a great friend of mine, and I had the utmost respect for him, but Pete Rozelle is not only the greatest commissioner in football, he is the best any sport has ever had."

Virtually every day starts the same for Rozelle in Westchester, a county 40 minutes from downtown Manhattan and his Park Avenue office. He slides into his leased car (paid for by the league as part of his contract) and is driven to work. Beside him on the seat are the daily newspapers, both local to New York City and national. He reads them on the way to the office.

"I guess it goes back to when I was a little kid," says Rozelle, who is now 59 and celebrating his 25th year as commissioner of the NFL. "I loved to read the sports pages—all sports. I wasn't big enough to play football [in the Compton, California area]. The best I ever did was play tag football on the playground. I played some basketball in high school, but I loved all sports."

When he was about 12 years old (he remembers it was sometime while in junior high school), his parents purchased a portable typewriter as a present. Rozelle used it to cover sports for the school paper.

"I covered the first high school game Duke Snider ever played in. He was a pitcher in those days," explains Rozelle, who remembers with great fondness his school days in the Compton area. "He pitched a no-hitter that day."

"My dad and uncles would take me fishing with them and they would talk sports. From time to time, they would take me to see the old Los Angeles Angels play. They were big sports fans. My dad and myself would sit down and figure out the [horse] races from the morning paper [they were re-created at night on the radio], and make a pick. I was pretty good at it. When someone would come over to the house, my dad would start bragging about how his little tyke picked the winner of the big race that day."

At Compton junior college, Rozelle combined his interests in sports and writing to get a job in the public relations department. It was also at that time that the Rams used the school for summer training camp, where Rozelle got his first NFL job. "It was just 60 cents an hour, and I made good money for those days because I could work a lot of hours. I still have pictures at home with me sitting on a pile of Ram helmets with guys like [Bob] Waterfield and Crazy Legs [Hirsch]. Those are memories I really cherish."

May 9, 1985. Harvard University. The speaker, David F. Dixon, founder of the United States Football League. "Mr. Pete Rozelle is a brilliant marketing executive. He is keenly aware that public interest in the NFL as a whole has been the most important element in shaping the league's success and is determined to maintain that interest at all costs."

Rozelle has been a hustler all of his life. And like any good hustler, he has mastered the basics of promoting and selling.

The seeds were planted early, when he was in his late teens, growing out of a relationship he formed with Maxwell Styles, public relations director of the Rams, who befriended Rozelle at the Compton training camp.

"My last two years at Compton, I put out the program for the Rams," said Rozelle, who started picking up the basics of advertising, promoting, marketing, and selling then. "It was great experience for me. How many kids that age would ever get a chance to do something like that."

Rozelle, until recent years, when he has spent hundreds of hours testifying in courtrooms and before Congress, always had great timing. It was as if some touch of magic put him in the right place at the right time and pushed him toward a certain destiny.

"Compton had the big relays in those days, with all of the colleges in the west coming. I got to know Pete Newell when he came down for the relays, and eventually I wound up with him at USF [University of San Francisco] for my last two years of college. Again I was lucky. The basketball team [Newell's] went to the NIT and the football team was undefeated."

When Rozelle graduated, Dan Reeves, the owner of the Rams, offered him a job to come home: "He offered me \$5,500. I wanted \$6,500. He said it was \$5,500 and not a cent more. I grabbed it in a hurry." A few years later, however, Ken Macker, a friend who owned one of the largest public-relations firms in San Francisco, made him an offer he couldn't refuse. "He offered me \$12,000 a year to leave the Rams. When I left, Dan wrote me a note saying, 'Remember, Pete, money isn't everything.'"

While Rozelle was in San Francisco expanding his education as a promoter and hustler, the Rams were developing trouble back in Los Angeles. General manager Tex Schramm left to take a job with CBS-TV. Four partners owned the Rams and were fighting for control. Reeves held on, and with the aid of a timely (there's that word again) call from commissioner Bert Bell, called Rozelle back to be general manager at L.A. "Bell called me up and asked me to consider it. There wasn't much to consider. I was going back home and doubling my salary again [to \$25,000]."

"If I had to make the odds on my chances of becoming commissioner, I would have made them 100 to 1. You can't make them any higher than that," said Rozelle recently, looking back on his startling ascension to the NFL throne at the age of 33 in 1960. "You could hardly say that I was a big favorite. It took 10 days and 23 ballots for the owners to make a selection. When I learned [at the meeting] that I had a chance, I went to the men's room and started smoking. Every time someone came in, I pretended to be washing my hands. Finally, when they found me and told me I had been selected, I walked back into the room and told them, 'Gentleman, I can assure you that I take this job with clean hands.'"

Rozelle moved swiftly with those clean hands. He made a move in 1961 that he still considers the most important of his tenure as commissioner, and one that proved to be the cornerstone of the NFL's great success during his stay in office. That year, he went to Congress and asked for an antitrust exemption that would allow the teams to share equally throughout the league the TV revenues he was working on with CBS for a network contract.

"What people tend to forget is the sacrifice that owners like Wellington Mara [New York Giants], Dan Reeves [Rams], and others from the big cities made to allow teams like Green Bay to get the same money out of the TV contract. It is the thing that helped create the competitive and geographic balance in the league. If they didn't agree to make the sacrifice, what has happened to the league would never have come about."

by WILL McDONOUGH BOSTON GLOBE

STREET AND SMITH'S PRO FOOTBALL



PETE ROZELLE

25 YEARS AS NFL COMMISSIONER

Congress granted the exemption in return for a pledge from the NFL that it would not play games on Friday nights or Saturdays in the fall, while the schoolboys and colleges were still playing. This, it was felt, would prevent the NFL TV package from hurting college and high school football. Rozelle was glad to go along with it, because he has been outspoken about preserving college football as it is. He has refused to allow underclassmen to play in the NFL, with Herschel Walker being a prime example.

The NFL on TV started as a brush fire in the early 1960s, grew to a forest fire after the merger with the rival AFL, and exploded into a raging inferno in the 1970s as the Super Bowl became the single greatest sports event in the nation each year and Monday Night football a habit that changed the habits of many people.

"The merger brought NFL style of football to a greater portion of the country," said Rozelle, who began watching his league play on two networks (CBS and NBC) and eventually three (ABC), with Monday nights, starting in 1981. "It has been really something to watch the way the Super Bowl has grown. A great moment was when the Steelers won their first Super Bowl in 1975. There was a lot of emotion in that dress-

ing room and for me when I handed the trophy to Mr. Rooney. Little did I know the Steelers would win three more Super Bowls in the next five years."

As the National Football League expanded to 28 teams covering nearly every area of the nation and to the three major networks, Rozelle put all of his promotional and marketing skills to work. The NFL became the first league to develop its own film company, NFL Films, which has won countless major awards for excellence while packaging syndicated shows to numerous TV stations across the country. If the fan didn't see it live on Sunday or Monday, he could catch up with it during the week on one of his local channels. Other leagues followed cue and developed their own film companies. It was the same with NFL Properties, the marketing and licensing arm of the league, selling everything from ashtrays to slick magazines and generating millions of dollars for the owners, most of whom have developed their own sports shops within their stadiums. A great deal of the money coming from Properties goes into NFL Charities, another facet of the Rozelle era, and is distributed across the nation to worthy causes, such as the United Way, which has reaped the benefit of the support given on each broadcast by the league through the award-winning promotional spots.

"If his [Rozelle's] people were working for Nixon, he would still be in the White House," Los Angeles Raiders' owner Al Davis, archenemy of Rozelle, once offered as a back-handed compliment. "Rozelle is one of the great public-relations people of all time," says Davis.

When Rozelle started as commissioner, the NFL was getting \$2 million a year as a league from network TV. In 1962, he negotiated his first TV contract, and the price jumped to \$4.6 million per year. Three years ago, with Pete still negotiating, it broke the bank at \$400 million per year. In 1960, American Football League franchises sold for \$25,000. San Diego, which was part of the AFL and entered the NFL via the merger, recently was sold by Gene Klein to Alex Spanos for \$82 million.

The numbers spawned during the Rozelle regime are staggering. Last year, a one-minute commercial for the Super Bowl in San Francisco cost \$1 million dollars. A pair of game tickets, each with a face value of \$60, was being scalped for \$1,250 during the week. The games themselves and the Super Bowl account for the ten most-watched sporting events on TV all-time. This past year, three major polls found NFL football the No. 1 game in the nation, drawing a higher percentage of the votes than all of the other sports put together.

"I have been very lucky," says Rozelle. "The owners have been very kind to me. Sooner or later you have to get involved in some problem with almost every team. The owner can be hot and angry. I try to stay cool and use logic with him. I try to convince [the owners] that the most important thing is to stay together. If we stay together, we will grow."

He has not been as successful at this in recent years as he once was. Davis, who felt Rozelle tried to undermine him in Oakland, triggering the Raiders' move to Los Angeles and the resulting court cases, went his own way, opening a Pandora's box. Robert Irsay moved Baltimore to Indianapolis against Rozelle's wishes. Leonard Tose tried to do the same with the Eagles, but Rozelle acted swiftly to orchestrate a move to keep the team away from Phoenix and in Philadelphia. Another painful episode came this past spring, when he had to support the sale of the Saints to keep that team in New Orleans despite the fact that the new owners did not have the financial portfolio owners of a \$65 million business should have.

"There are a lot of times I get discouraged," says Rozelle. "I don't have the fun I used to have at this job, but I never think of quitting. I love what I am doing. Every day there is a challenge, and I'm competitive."



NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

PREDICTIONS

WEST

1. San Francisco 49ers
2. Los Angeles Rams
3. Atlanta Falcons
4. New Orleans Saints

EAST

1. Washington Redskins
2. St. Louis Cardinals
3. New York Giants
4. Dallas Cowboys
5. Philadelphia Eagles

CENTRAL

1. Chicago Bears
2. Green Bay Packers
3. Tampa Bay Buccaneers
4. Minnesota Vikings
5. Detroit Lions

● Bill Walsh may not be a genius, but when he talks these days, people have a tendency to listen. The professorial coach of the world champion San Francisco 49ers called the New York Giants and Chicago Bears "teams of the future" after vanquishing both of them in National Football Conference playoff games en route to the Super Bowl.

What Walsh left unsaid is how far in the future. The 49ers certainly seem to have the near future wrapped around their ring fingers. They have won two of the last four Super Bowls and don't appear to be getting either old or fat. They are getting rich and they seem to like that part. Owner Eddie DeBartolo Jr. seems to like it, too. He makes them rich and doesn't look any poorer himself for the trouble.

Bears' president Michael McCaskey, owner of the NFC runner-up team, made it clear during the offseason that he doesn't intend to get into a spending war with the 49ers or anyone else in an effort to buy victory. McCaskey claims it can't be done and has the facts to back him up.

So the Bears and everyone else are hoping somehow to be smarter than the 49ers, or luckier, or both. It is difficult for even the most biased observers to imagine anyone being better than the 49ers. Their personnel is simply superior and their depth was a major reason for their 1984 success. In

by **DON PIERSON** CHICAGO TRIBUNE

case anyone thinks a cutback from 49 to 45 on the roster will make any difference, please consult the nine defensive linemen the 49ers played last season.

Is the NFC facing a dynasty? Maybe not, but the 49ers aren't acting like the polite hosts, either. Whatever happened to parity anyway? Aren't these teams supposed to pass things around? Good for business, isn't it? Yet the 49ers compiled a record of 15-1, which hardly keeps the customers interested in December.

Then take the draft. The 49ers did. The draft was invented to help the poor get richer. Presumably, the rich get poorer in the bargain because not everyone can draft the best players. When you win the Super Bowl, you go to the end of the line and patiently wait your turn, taking whatever crumbs the rest of the league leaves on the draft table. Not the 49ers. They acted like gluttons and bribed the New England Patriots to let them cut in ahead of 12 teams. Then they took one of the best players in a draft that wasn't supposed to have many great ones. And he's a wide receiver to boot: Jerry Rice of Mississippi Valley. Most teams think the 49ers need wide receivers like the arms race needs one more weapon. Much more of this and the 49ers are going to blow up the whole league.

So who can beat the 49ers in a conference that now has won three of the last four Super Bowls? A new champion probably won't emerge from the 49ers' own West Division, because the 49ers own it. The Los Angeles Rams are the only team close. The Atlanta Falcons and New Orleans Saints appear to have retreated from the heat of battle to reload, which makes it even tougher on all the teams trying to catch the 49ers. When a team such as the 49ers can have the advantage of four games a year against the likes of the Falcons and Saints, it can rest up for bigger and better things, like the Rams, poor Rams. The East and Central divisions are so busy beating each other up that they save no energy for the 49ers. NFC foes took some curious turns during the offseason in their chase of the 49ers.

THE WEST: The Rams' answer this year to 49er quarterback Joe Montana is Dieter Brock, a 34-year-old refugee from the Canadian Football League who threw for 35,000 yards north of the border and is looking for his first yard south of it. The big question is whether Brock can hand off. With Eric Dickerson running, that's about all the Ram quarterback has to do. The Rams passed fewer times than any other team last year and would like to improve in that area. Defensively, their best lineman, Jack Youngblood, has a bad back.

The Falcons are in the process of drafting offensive and defensive linemen, and you know what that means: rebuilding at its most basic level. They hope they can get another season out of 32-year-old quarterback Steve Bartkowski.

The Saints began their 1985 journey by trading their top running back, George Rogers, to the Washington Redskins so they could draft a linebacker named Alvin Toles. If Toles is recovered from a broken leg, maybe he can catch Montana and provide the Saints with their first winning season ever. Then again, maybe he can't.

THE EAST: The Redskins got the boost they needed by acquiring Rogers, who has the ability to replace John Riggin as the feature back in coach Joe Gibbs's offense. They are the only club in the NFC that strengthened themselves with a known NFL commodity. The addition of Rogers alone makes the Redskins the favorite to win their fourth straight title in the most balanced division in the NFC.

The St. Louis Cardinals moved to strengthen their improving defense by drafting Freddie Joe Nunn, this year's answer to San Francisco pass rusher Fred Dean. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. In Neil Lomax, the Cardinals have the NFC quarterback rated closest to Montana. In Roy Green, they have the most explosive wide receiver in the conference.

The Giants moved to improve a weakness at running back by signing United States Football League 1,000-yard rusher Maurice Carthon. If Carthon is understandably weary coming off a spring season, the Giants will look toward No. 1 draft choice George Adams of Kentucky. Of all the chasers, the Giants came closest to the 49ers last postseason.

The Cowboys say they have an improved attitude. Improving themselves at wide receiver probably would help more. Their attitude was shaken when the 49ers jumped one spot ahead of them to draft Jerry Rice. The Cowboys settled for defensive end Kevin Brooks. He can rush the passer, but can he catch passes?

The Eagles had the ninth pick in the draft and had to settle for the fourth offensive tackle on the board: Indiana's Kevin Allen. That means they hope to extract themselves from the East basement by lining up with someone projected as second-team all-rookie.

THE CENTRAL: This division hired two-and-a-half new coaches, the only new faces in the NFC. They are Tampa Bay's Leeman Bennett, a former winner in Atlanta; Detroit's Darryl Rogers, a former winner in college; and Minnesota's Bud Grant, who counts as a half after a whole year off.

The Bears had the 26th-ranked pass offense in the league last year, so they drafted two defensive players for their No. 1-ranked defense in hopes of shutting out everybody. The 49ers beat them, 23-0, in the title game. Maybe the Bears can force a 0-0 tie this time.

The Packers think they can contend if they can only protect Lynn Dickey, their fragile quarterback. They drafted two rookies to help.

The Bucs moved to shore up an eroding defense, but it may take this team a year to get used to Bennett. Unlike John McKay, the only coach the Bucs have ever known, Bennett might say something nice about his players from time to time.

The Vikings are three years away, according to Grant. By then, maybe Walsh's future will have arrived.

The Lions appear in as much disarray as the Saints. Rogers said they needed defense; they drafted offense. Rogers said quarterback Gary Danielson was coming off his best year; they traded him and acquired Buffalo's Joe Ferguson, who is coming off three of his worst years. To add to the confusion, Ferguson is 35, Danielson 34.

Even if no team in the NFC appears ready to supplant the 49ers, it is a conference full of stars, as last year's statistics showed. The NFC boasted the record-setting rusher Dickerson and the all-time rusher in Chicago's Walter Payton. The top seven runners in football lived in the NFC. The conference also had the top receiver in number of catches, Washington's Art Monk; the top receiver in yards, St. Louis's Roy Green; and the top receiver in average yards per catch, Green Bay's James Lofton. The NFC had six of the top 10 passers, all of them trailing Miami's Dan Marino. But three of them are aging: Bartkowski, Washington's Joe Theismann, and Dickey, and a fourth, Danielson, now plays in the AFC.

THE ALL-NFC TEAM

OFFENSE

WR—Roy Green, St. Louis
WR—James Lofton, Green Bay
TE—Paul Coffman, Green Bay
T—Jimbo Covert, Chicago
T—Bill Bain, Los Angeles
G—Sean Farrel, Tampa Bay
G—Ron Hallstrom, Green Bay
C—Fred Quillan, San Francisco
RB—Eric Dickerson, Los Angeles
RB—James Wilder, Tampa Bay
QB—Joe Montana, San Francisco
PK—Ray Werschling, San Francisco

DEFENSE

E—Curtis Greer, St. Louis
E—Dwayne Board, San Francisco
T—Dan Hampton, Chicago
T—Randy White, Dallas
LB—E.J. Junior, St. Louis
LB—Mike Singletary, Chicago
LB—Otis Wilson, Chicago
LB—Lawrence Taylor, Giants
CB—Eric Wright, San Francisco
CB—Darrell Green, Washington
S—Ronnie Lott, San Francisco
S—Gary Fencik, Chicago
P—Greg Coleman, Minnesota



NFC West

ROGER CRAIG

RUSS FRANCIS

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

The San Francisco 49ers are so strong and so deep and so convincing that no expert with a straight face could pick them to lose. If Joe Montana cuts his face during a shaving commercial, the 49ers could have problems. Even so, coach Bill Walsh says of his backup quarterback, Matt Cavanaugh, "We suffer no loss of momentum or effectiveness with Matt."

Scary words indeed for NFC rivals. Walsh would rather have Montana, of course, as would anyone with a desire to win often and spectacularly. "Without a doubt, one of the finest performers under pressure that the game has ever seen," said Walsh.

The really frightening thing for 49er foes is that the 49ers are seldom under pressure. Montana has blockers and runners and receivers and a defense that surrendered the fewest points in the league last year. On a bad day, Montana can hand off or punt and the 49ers can win.

The only question mark about the 1985 49ers is desire. Repeating is tougher than winning the first one, they say. It's not really true; it only seems that way. Repeating is only as tough as winning the first one. Players often forget how tough it is.

After the 49ers won Super Bowl XVI following the 1981 season, they slept through the 1982 strike-shortened season with a 3-6 record. Walsh and his players admitted a let-down and they believe the memory of it will prevent a recurrence in 1985. "The one thing we have to remember is that when we go back to training camp, we've got to practice," said cornerback Ronnie Lott. Easy to forget if you are the world champions.

The 49ers are characterized by so much depth that Walsh may have solved the age-old problems of injury and fatigue. You have one good running back; the 49ers have two. You have two tight ends; the 49ers use three. You have four or five pass rushers; the 49ers use nine. You have one good cornerback; the 49ers boast an entire Pro Bowl secondary.

Just when you think you have Walsh's choreographed system figured out, he puts a 270-pound guard named Guy McIntyre in the backfield as a lead blocker. In the NFC championship game against the Chicago Bears last year, Walsh had Montana and wide receiver Freddie Solomon switch positions for a play to allow Solomon to run an option play and Bear coaches to scratch their heads.

"Leave it to Walsh to think of something like that," said Bears' coach Mike Ditka. "He has the greatest quarterback in the game, and he lines him up at flanker."

Despite all the impressive credentials, the 49ers would be the first team since the 1978-79 Pittsburgh Steelers to win back-to-back

Super Bowls. Defense of the title starts with defense. Fortunately for Walsh, defensive coordinator George Seifert did not become head coach of the Indianapolis Colts. So Seifert can continue to direct traffic and substitute the right men for all the right situations.

Playing the right defense becomes a simpler matter, of course, when your offense is scoring 30 points a game. That's where Montana checks in as the team's most valuable asset. The 49ers scored 30 or more points in 10 games and gained a club-record 6,366

DWIGHT CLARK



WENDELL TYLER

yards last season. Their club-record 475 points was second only to Miami's 513. As Montana proved in the Super Bowl, there is simply no better quarterback in football. Walsh's intricate system gets plenty of credit for making the offense go, but it is when the system breaks down that Montana's true value is demonstrated. No one is better at improvising. Montana makes something out of nothing more consistently than perhaps any quarterback who ever played. By its very definition, that ability is impossible to shut down. Despite Walsh's confidence in Cavanaugh, the 49ers cannot afford to lose Montana.

Of course, Solomon could always step in and simply hand off to Wendell Tyler or Roger Craig. Running backs are an inadequate description of this tandem. Each accounted for 135 total yards in the Super Bowl, providing an astonishing balance of running and catch-

49ERS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Werschling, 131 points on 56 extra points and 25 field goals
1st
RUSHING—Tyler, 1,262 yards on 246 carries, 5.1 avg., 7 TDs
5th
PASSING—Montana, 279 of 432 attempts for 3,630 yards and 28 TDs
1st
RECEIVING—Craig, 71 receptions for 675 yards, 9.5 avg., 3 TDs
6th
INTERCEPTIONS—Turner, 4 for 51 yards, 12.8 avg., 17th
PUNTING—Runager, 56 punts, 41.8 avg., longest 59 yards
7th
PUNT RETURNS—McLemore, 45 for 521 yards, 11.6 avg., 1 TD
2nd
KICKOFF RETURNS—Monroe, 27 for 561 yards, 20.8 avg., 9th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 At Los Angeles Raiders (N)
19 DENVER (N)
24 SAN DIEGO (N)
30 At Seattle (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8 At Minnesota	51-7
	15 ATLANTA	14-5
	22 At Los Angeles Raiders	—
	29 NEW ORLEANS	3-20
October	6 At Atlanta	35-17
	13 CHICAGO	—
	20 At Detroit	30-27
	27 At Los Angeles Rams	33-0
November	3 PHILADELPHIA	21-9
	11 At Denver (N)	—
	17 KANSAS CITY	—
	25 SEATTLE (N)	—
December	1 At Washington	37-31
	9 LOS ANGELES RAMS (N)	19-16
	15 At New Orleans	35-3
	22 DALLAS	—

ing for the 49ers. Tyler had 1,262 yards rushing on the season, 1,492 rushing and passing. Craig led the club in receptions and compiled 1,324 total yards. "Craig may be the best all-purpose back in football," said Walsh. Derrick Harmon, Carl Monroe, and Bill Ring are good spot performers, and Alabama draftee Ricky Moore could challenge for a job.

On a team that has Dwight Clark, Russ Francis, and Renaldo Nehemiah to catch passes, Freddie Solomon was the man most opponents chose to double-team. Yet when Solomon endured an off day in the Super Bowl, the 49ers hardly missed him. Solomon is 32 and slowing down, so the 49ers jumped ahead in the draft to land a potential superstar in Jerry Rice of Mississippi Valley. And listen to what Walsh says about Mike Wilson: "Mike could be the most skilled of all our receivers." Francis is the best blocker among the tight ends. Earl Cooper caught the most passes and young John Frank is "expected to become a starter sometime," said Walsh.

Montana has the luxury of three Pro Bowl starters on the offensive line in tackle Keith Fahnhorst, guard Randy Cross, and center Fred Quillan. What more could a quarterback want? How about 300-pound Bubba Paris at tackle and John Ayers—"one of the best pass-protecting guards in football," according to the coach. Allan Kennedy, Jesse Sapolu, and Mark Bonner head the backup list.

On defense, the 49ers appear to have two or three teams. Not only do they employ nine defensive linemen, they play them three and four at a time. Lawrence Pillers, Dwaine Board, and Jeff Stover start; Fred Dean, Jim Stuckey, and Manu Tuiaasopo relieve. Gary Johnson, Louis Kelcher, and Michael Carter provide experience, size, and power. Returning veteran John Hartly will provide confusion, as in how can the 49ers use 10 pass rushers? Pillers starts his tenth year; Dean, Johnson, and Kelcher their eleventh. But this is no drawback for specialty players.

At linebacker, Keena Turner is the only player who never gets a rest because he is effective against the run and pass from his rightside position. Inside linebacker Riki Ellison led the club in tackles playing beside veteran Jack Reynolds, who won't be back. Dan Bunz moved to left outside linebacker and played well. Last year's No. 1 draft choice, Todd Shell, will push for a starting spot. Walsh also sees Mike Walter as a potential inside starter. Jeff Fuller is an example of the versatility in the 49er defense. He is listed as a "safety-linebacker" and plays in nickel situations.

The 49ers have the best secondary in football. Right cornerback Eric Wright emerged from the shadow of left cornerback Ronnie Lott with an outstanding season and was a late selection to the Pro Bowl. Safeties Carlton Williamson and Dwight Hicks also started in all-star game and punt-returner and backup cornerback Dana McLemore was an alternate. Tom Holmoe was effective as a nickel back, and two veteran defenders who were hurt last year and could be factors are Mario Clark and Tim Collier.

Ray Wersching begins his thirteenth year as one of the league's least-known and best place-kickers. Max Runager joined the club in the third week and enjoyed his best season as a punter. McLemore was among the league leaders in punt returns. Carl Monroe was better-than-average as a kickoff-return specialist, although such a job on the 49ers can get lonely.

JOE MONTANA

49ERS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	college
68	Ayers, John	G	6-5	265	32	9	West Texas St.
76	Board, Dwaine	DE	6-5	248	29	6	N.C. A&T
57	Bunz, Dan	LB	6-4	225	30	7	Long Beach St.
95	Carter, Michael	NT	6-2	281	25	2	SMU
6	Cavanaugh, Matt	QB	6-2	212	29	8	Pittsburgh
87	Clark, Dwight	WR	6-4	215	29	7	Clemson
29	Clark, Mario	DB	6-2	195	31	10	Oregon
89	Cooper, Earl	TE	6-2	227	28	6	Rice
33	Craig, Roger	RB	6-0	222	25	3	Nebraska
51	Cross, Randy	G	6-3	265	31	10	Utah
74	Dean, Fred	DE	6-2	232	33	11	La Tech
50	Ellison, Riki	LB	6-2	220	25	3	Southern Cal
71	Fahnhorst, Keith	T	6-6	273	33	12	Minnesota
81	Francis, Russ	TE	6-6	242	32	10	Oregon
86	Frank, John	TE	6-3	225	23	2	Ohio St.
49	Fuller, Jeff	S	6-2	216	23	2	Texas A&M
24	Harmon, Derrick	RB	5-10	202	22	2	Cornell
22	Hicks, Dwight	S	6-1	192	29	7	Michigan
28	Holmoe, Tom	DB	6-2	180	25	3	BYU
94	Kelcher, Louie	NT	6-5	310	32	11	SMU
97	Johnson, Gary	DT	6-2	261	32	11	Grambling
66	Kennedy, Allan	OT	6-7	275	28	4	Washington St.
42	Lott, Ronnie	DB	6-0	199	26	5	Southern Cal
53	McColl, Milt	LB	6-6	230	26	5	Stanford
62	McIntyre, Guy	G	6-3	271	24	2	Georgia
43	McLemore, Dana	DB	5-10	183	25	4	Hawaii
32	Monroe, Carl	RB	5-8	166	25	3	Utah
16	Montana, Joe	QB	6-2	195	29	7	Notre Dame
52	Montgomery, B.	LB	6-2	236	24	3	UCLA
83	Nehemiah, Renaldo	WR	6-1	183	26	4	Maryland
77	Paris, Bubba	OT	6-6	295	25	3	Michigan
65	Pillers, Lawrence	DL	6-4	250	33	10	Texas A&M
56	Quillan, Fred	C	6-5	266	29	8	Oregon
64	Reynolds, Jack	LB	6-1	232	38	16	Tennessee
30	Ring, Bill	RB	5-10	205	29	5	BYU
4	Runager, Max	P	6-1	189	29	7	South Carolina
90	Shell, Todd	LB	6-4	225	23	2	BYU
67	Shields, Billy	OT	6-8	279	32	11	Georgia Tech
88	Solomon, Freddie	WR	5-11	188	33	11	Tampa
72	Stover, Jeff	NT	6-5	275	27	4	Oregon
79	Stuckey, Jim	DE	6-4	253	27	6	Clemson
78	Tuiaasopo, Manu	NT	6-3	252	28	7	UCLA
58	Turner, Keena	LB	6-2	219	27	6	Purdue
26	Tyler, Wendell	RB	5-10	200	30	8	UCLA
99	Walter, Mike	LB	6-3	238	25	3	Oregon
14	Wersching, Ray	PK	5-11	210	35	13	California
27	Williamson, Carlton	S	6-0	204	27	5	Pittsburgh
85	Wilson, Mike	WR	6-3	210	27	5	Washington St.
21	Wright, Eric	DB	6-1	180	26	5	Missouri

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Rice, Jerry	WR	6-2	200	Miss. Valley St.
3	Moore, Ricky	RB	5-11	236	Alabama
5	Collie, Bruce	OT	6-6	275	Texas-Arlington
6	Barry, Scott	QB	6-2	190	Cal Davis
11	Wood, David	DE	6-4	250	Arizona
12	Chumley, Donald	DT	6-4	259	Georgia

RIKI ELLISON

LOS ANGELES RAMS

The Rams believe strongly in the law of averages. They figure if they bring in enough quarterbacks over the years, one of them is bound to win. Critics argue that the Rams believe in the law of average quarterbacks.

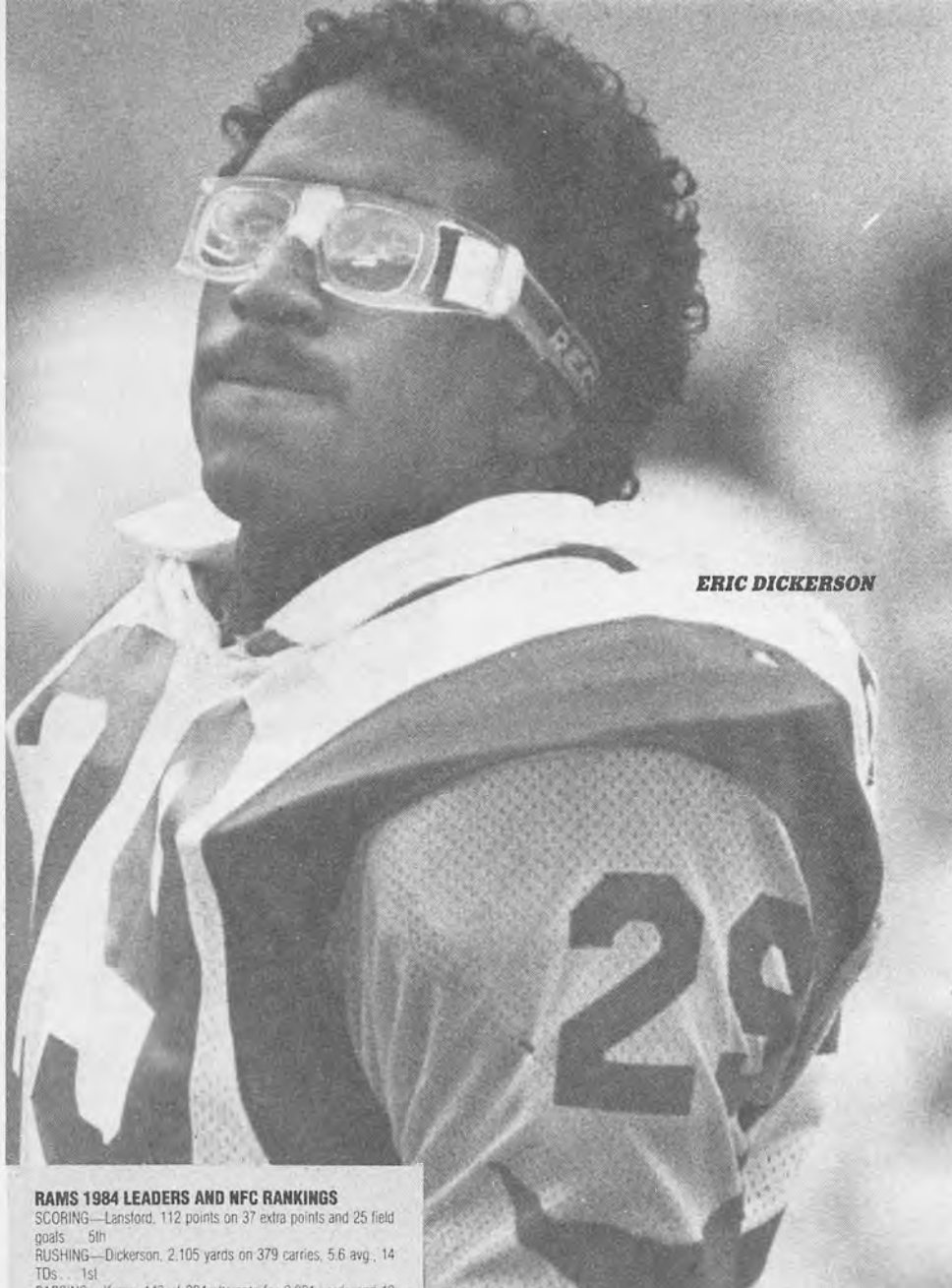
Dieter Brock is the latest to get caught in the revolving door. The Rams signed the 34-year-old former Canadian League passer to a whopping \$2.1 million contract for four years and said Vince Ferragamo could start packing with his injured hand. The deal confused last year's primary starter, Jeff Kemp, who helped the Rams reach the playoffs as a wild-card entry. It also amused several rival clubs, who couldn't figure out how a quarterback with zero NFL experience could justify a huge contract for handing off to Eric Dickerson.

Such mystery is at the root of Ram history. In 1977, the Rams tried to extend the waning years of Joe Namath. In 1981, they propped up Dan Pastorini. In 1982, they counted on Bert Jones, who lasted four games. Not since Roman Gabriel, who was traded in 1973, has one Rams' quarterback put together two full seasons. Undaunted by such trivia is coach John Robinson, who cared only that Brock seems able to toss passes over the heads of linebackers, a skill that often escaped the strong-armed Ferragamo.

"Brock has impressed me with his ability to compete, his gamesmanship. He's a drop-back-style passer who utilized the same repertoire in the CFL that is used in the NFL," said Robinson. "He has quick feet, sets up quickly, and can get rid of the ball. He also has a good touch and an amazingly strong arm. And he can throw the 'touch' pass, the up-and-down over the linebackers."

Quarterbacks are barely more than a necessary luxury to Robinson, who has Dickerson and a penchant for running nurtured by years of tutoring USC tailbacks. Robinson points out that in his last nine years of coaching, including seven at USC, he used eight different quarterbacks and was usually successful.

Brock's addition is expected to better complement an offense built around the most awesome threat in the game today, Dickerson. With Dickerson raising the NFL one-season rushing record to 2,105 yards, the Rams were



ERIC DICKERSON

RAMS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

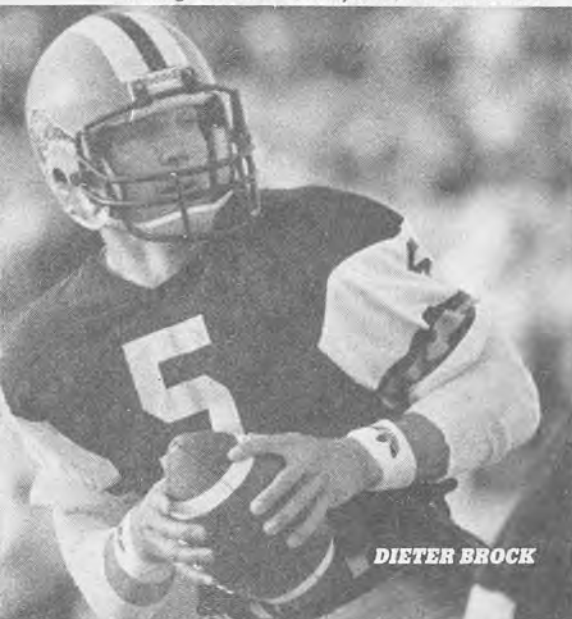
SCORING—Lanford, 112 points on 37 extra points and 25 field goals 5th
 RUSHING—Dickerson, 2,105 yards on 379 carries, 5.6 avg., 14 TDs... 1st
 PASSING—Kemp, 143 of 284 attempts for 2,021 yards and 13 TDs... 8th
 RECEIVING—Ellard, 34 receptions for 622 yards, 18.3 avg., 6 TDs... 43rd
 INTERCEPTIONS—Irvin, 5 for 166 yards, 33.2 avg., 2 TDs... 8th
 PUNTING—Misko, 74 punts, 38.7 avg., longest 58 yards 12th
 PUNT RETURNS—Ellard, 30 for 403 yards, 13.4 avg., 2 TDs... 1st
 KICKOFF RETURNS—Redden, 23 for 530 yards, 23.0 avg., 1st

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	10	HOUSTON (N)
	15	ST. LOUIS (N)
	24	Philadelphia (at Toronto)
	31	NEW ENGLAND (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8	DENVER
	15	At Philadelphia
	23	At Seattle (N)
	29	ATLANTA
October	6	MINNESOTA
	13	At Tampa Bay
	20	At Kansas City
	27	SAN FRANCISCO
November	3	NEW ORLEANS
	10	At New York Giants
	17	At Atlanta
	24	GREEN BAY
December	1	At New Orleans
	9	At San Francisco (N)
	15	ST. LOUIS
	23	LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (N)



DIETER BROCK

able to gain a wild-card playoff berth and a 10-6 record. Dickerson is so good that the Rams could even play catch-up football with him. Just think what even a little bit of passing might do. Last year, the Rams passed fewer times than anyone else in the league. With Brock, they have a man who passed for 34,830 yards and 210 touchdowns. Robinson wants Dickerson, for one, to catch more passes. "He caught 51 his first year and just 21 last year," said Robinson. "It may be surprising to some, but I expect Eric to be better in 1985." Dickerson expects to be richer and has hired former boxing champion Ken Norton as his agent. Behind Dickerson, the Rams have the talented Barry Redden.

Wide receivers Henry Ellard, Ron Brown, and Drew Hill expect to catch more than the 71 passes they caught last year, and if they can maintain their whopping average of 21 yards per catch, the passing attack will improve considerably. Experience will be valuable. Ellard was a starter for the first time; Brown astonished Robinson by his progress after a year out of football to compete in the

Olympic Games. Vanderbilt's Chuck Scott was drafted in the second round and could be a possession-type receiver to complement the rest. Robinson is counting on the return of tight end Mike Barber from a knee injury. With Barber and David Hill, the Rams can line up two of the best blocking and receiving tight ends in football. Hill and Mike Guman also serve as the U-back in the single-back set.

Robinson admits his offensive line "has just about everything you can ask for. Experience, talent, leadership, depth, and a solid work ethic about itself. It is likely the strongest unit on our team." Opponents would argue it certainly holds its own. No line is more effective. Tackles Bill Bain and Jackie Slater are 11- and 10-year veterans and guard Dennis Harrah is in his eleventh year. Guard Kent Hill is in his seventh and center Doug Smith his eighth. Of the five, only Bain hasn't made the Pro Bowl, and he had the best season of all of them last year. Tackle Irv Pankey and guard-tackle Russ Bolinger provide experienced depth.

Robinson cannot offer similar words of praise for his defensive line. He is looking hard for ways to increase the 43 sacks the Rams recorded last year. "We'll go to a four-man line a higher percentage of the time than in the past. We may be creating more specialized roles for our players," said Robinson.

The health of the team's best lineman, Jack Youngblood, is a major question mark. Advised to undergo back surgery after last sea-

son, Youngblood chose instead to try to rehabilitate on his own for his fifteenth season. "We're talking about one of the most strong-willed men I've ever known," said Robinson. "My hope and assumption is that Jack will be back. He will continue to have a major impact on our defense." The Rams also are hoping for the return to health of pass rusher Gary Jeter, who also had a back injury. Reggie Doss is a good end against the run and Greg Meisner is improving at nose tackle. Doug

Reed and Charles DeJurnett provide depth, and Robinson is hoping former Buccaneer Booker Reese will make a comeback.

The Rams have experience at linebacker, where inside starters Jim Collins and Carl Ekern and outside starters Mel Owens and George Andrews form an efficient foursome. Robinson thought leading tackler Collins belonged in the Pro Bowl last season. Ekern is dependable, Owens improving, and Andrews so consistent he is "almost invisible," says Robinson. Mike Wilcher did a good job of filling in last year when Andrews was hurt.

Injury disrupted the backfield so much last season that Robinson had to start several combinations of players. To help solidify the area, the Rams made Texas's Jerry Gray their No. 1 draft choice. Like former top pick Johnnie Johnson, Gray has the talent to play safety and the speed to play the corner, so the Rams have several options. Former Pro Bowler Gary Green is one corner and Leroy Irvin is coming off his best season at the other. Johnson and the veteran Nolan Cromwell are the safeties, with Eric Harris and Vince Newsome experienced backups.

The Rams shored up their punting by making Clemson's Dale Hatcher a third-round pick. Mike Lansford made 17 of his last 18 field goals. Redden led the NFC in kickoff-return average. Ellard led the NFC in punt-return average. The punt- and kickoff-cover-age teams both finished second in the NFL.

RAMS VETERAN ROSTER

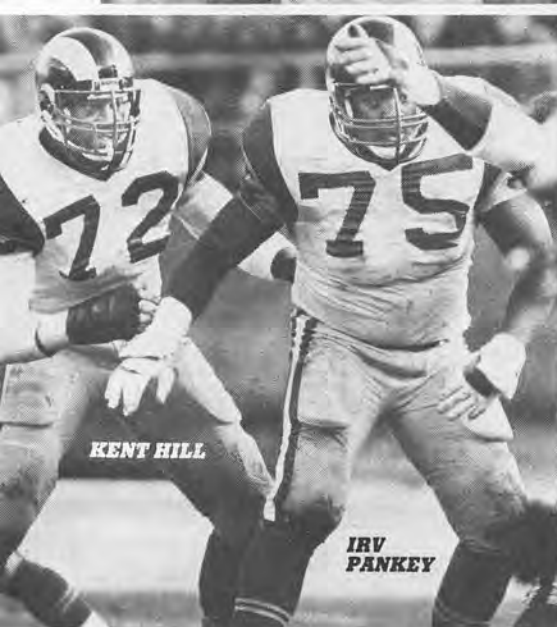
no.	name	pos	ht	wt	exp	age	college
52	Andrews, George	LB	6-3	222	7	30	Nebraska
62	Bain, Bill	T	6-4	285	11	33	Southern Cal.
86	Barber, Mike	TE	6-3	237	10	32	Louisiana Tech
96	Barnett, Doug	LB	6-3	250	4	25	Azusa Pacific
73	Bolinger, Russ	G	6-5	255	9	31	Long Beach
90	Brady, Ed	LB	6-2	228	2	25	Illinois
	Brock, Dieter	QB	6-0	190	R	34	Jacksonville St.
89	Brown, Ron	WR	5-11	181	2	24	Arizona St.
50	Collins, Jim	LB	6-2	230	5	27	Syracuse
21	Cromwell, Nolan	S	6-1	200	9	30	Kansas
28	Croudp, David	CB	5-9	183	2	26	San Diego St.
45	Crutchfield, Dwayne	RB	6-0	245	4	26	Iowa State
70	DeJurnett, Charles	NT	6-4	260	9	33	San Jose St.
29	Dickerson, Eric	RB	6-3	220	3	25	SMU
8	Dils, Steve	QB	6-1	191	7	30	Stanford
71	Doss, Reggie	DE	6-4	263	8	29	Hampton Inst.
55	Ekern, Carl	LB	6-3	222	9	31	San Jose St.
80	Ellard, Henry	WR	5-11	170	3	24	Fresno St.
84	Farmer, George	WR	5-10	175	4	27	Southern U.
88	Faulkner, Chris	G	6-4	260	2	25	Florida
15	Ferragamo, Vince	QB	6-3	212	8	31	Nebraska
49	Fisher, Roderick	CB	5-10	190	2	24	Oklahoma St.
82	Grant, Otis	WR	6-3	197	3	24	Michigan St.
27	Green, Gary	CB	5-11	191	9	30	Baylor
44	Guman, Mike	UB	6-2	218	6	27	Penn St.
60	Harrah, Dennis	G	6-5	270	11	32	Miami
26	Harris, Eric	SS	6-3	202	6	30	Memphis St.
81	Hill, David	TE	6-2	240	10	31	Texas A&I
87	Hill, Drew	WR	5-9	170	7	29	Georgia Tech
72	Hill, Kent	G	6-5	260	7	28	Georgia Tech
47	Irvin, LeRoy	CB	5-11	184	6	28	Kansas
59	Jeter, Gary	LB	6-3	229	3	25	Washington
77	Jeter, Gary	DE	6-4	260	9	30	Southern Cal.
20	Johnson, Johnnie	S	6-1	183	6	29	Texas
24	Jones, A.J.	RB	6-1	202	4	26	Texas
46	Kamana, John	UB	6-2	215	2	24	Southern Cal.
9	Kemp, Jeff	QB	6-1	201	5	26	Dartmouth
76	Kowalski, Gary	T	6-6	283	3	25	Boston College
1	Lansford, Mike	PK	6-0	183	4	27	Washington
57	Laughlin, Jim	LB	6-1	222	6	27	Ohio St.
83	McDonald, James	TE	6-5	240	3	24	Southern Cal.
63	McDonald, Mike	LB	6-1	235	2	27	Southern Cal.
67	McQuaid, Dan	T	6-7	255	2	25	UNLV
69	Meisner, Greg	NT	6-3	265	5	26	Pittsburgh
98	Miller, Shawn	NT	6-4	255	2	24	Utah State
6	Misko, John	P	6-5	207	4	31	Oregon St.
22	Newsome, Vince	S	6-1	179	3	24	Washington
58	Owens, Mel	LB	6-2	224	5	27	Michigan
75	Pankey, Irv	T	6-4	267	6	27	Penn State
43	Pleasant, Mike	DB	6-2	193	2	27	Oklahoma
30	Redden, Barry	RB	5-10	205	4	25	Richmond
93	Reed, Doug	DE	6-3	250	2	25	San Diego St.
66	Reese, Booker	DE	6-6	260	4	26	Beth.-Cookman
64	Shearin, Joe	C	6-4	250	3	25	Texas
78	Slater, Jackie	T	6-4	271	10	31	Jackson St.
56	Smith, Doug	C	6-3	253	8	29	Bowling Green
95	Stephens, Hal	T	6-4	252	2	24	East Carolina
37	Sully, Ivory	S	6-0	200	7	28	Delaware
12	Tinsley, Scott	QB	6-2	195	2	26	Southern Cal.
51	Vann, Norwood	LB	6-1	225	2	23	E. Carolina
54	Wilcher, Mike	LB	6-3	240	3	25	North Carolina
53	Youngblood, Jim	LB	6-3	231	13	35	Tenn. Tech
85	Youngblood, Jack	DE	6-4	242	15	35	Florida

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Gray, Jerry	DB	6-1	183	Texas
2	Scott, Chuck	WR	6-1	205	Vanderbilt
3	Hatcher, Dale	P	6-1	210	Clemson
5	Greene, Kevin	LB	6-2	240	Auburn
6	Young, Mike	WR	6-0	190	UCLA
6	Johnson, Damone	TE	6-4	225	Cal Poly-SLO
7	Bradley, Danny	RB	5-9	178	Oklahoma
8	McIntyre, Marlon	RB	6-1	214	Pittsburgh
9	Swanson, Gary	LB	6-1	226	Cal Poly-SLO
10	Love, Duval	G	6-3	265	UCLA
11	Flutie, Doug	QB	5-10	177	Boston College
11	Brown, Kevin	DB	6-0	189	Northwestern



NOLAN CROMWELL



KENT HILL

IRV PANKEY



HENRY ELLARD

GERALD RIGGS

ATLANTA FALCONS

For a team that lost its best runner, its best receiver, and its No. 1 quarterback in 1984, the Atlanta Falcons did about as well as could be expected: 4-12. Since there are still doubts about the return of running back William Andrews, receiver Billy (White Shoes) Johnson, and quarterback Steve Bartkowski, there are obvious questions about whether the Falcons can improve on the 4-12 record.

The 32-year-old Bartkowski is expected to return for his eleventh season, but his right knee is not too thrilled about it. It has undergone major surgery twice and minor surgery three times. Bartkowski was sacked 40 times in 11 games last year before he was knocked out for the season in the twelfth week. The Falcons gave up a league-leading 67 sacks and Bartkowski is intent on getting more protection. If they can't promise him blockers, they at least can give him dollars.

Andrews is a bigger question mark. His knee was virtually wrecked last preseason and there is simply no way anyone can predict his future until he actually does return. The Falcons are not even expected to experiment with Andrews until the regular season opens. In that respect, he is in the same boat as another superstar running back, the Detroit Lions' Billy Sims.

Johnson was knocked out with a knee injury in the sixth week of last season, and although he has demonstrated remarkable resilience before, the man is 33 years old. Someday, the white shoes are bound to fade.

Because Bartkowski, Andrews, and Johnson accounted for 84 percent of the Falcons' offense in 1983, it is little wonder coach Dan Henning missed them in 1984 and is anxious about them for 1985. So are the Falcons faithful, or what is left of them. Only 15,000 fans showed up for the finale last season.

The Falcons would appear to need several drafts full of Rick Bryans to stem their downward spiral. Bryan was the No. 1 choice last year who led the club in solo tackles from his defensive right-tackle position. Although he played so well he was named defensive rookie of the year, the Falcons' needs are so great that Henning is switching Bryan to left end. Somehow, the Falcons feel that will shore up the pass rush, although two of the league's better rushers line up at right tackle: Dallas's

FALCONS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Luckhurst, 91 points on 31 extra points and 20 field goals . . . 110th
RUSHING—Riggs, 1,486 yards on 353 carries, 4.2 avg., 13 TDs . . . 4th
PASSING—Bartkowski, 181 of 269 attempts for 2,158 yards and 11 TDs . . . 3rd
RECEIVING—Bailey, 67 receptions for 1,138 yards, 17.0 avg., 6 TDs . . . 8th
INTERCEPTIONS—K. Johnson, 5 for 75 yards, 15.0 avg. . . 15th
PUNTING—Giacomarro, 68 punts, 42.0 avg., longest 58 yards . . . 5th
PUNT RETURNS—B. Johnson, 15 for 152 yards, 10.1 avg., unranked
KICKOFF RETURNS—Stamps, 19 for 452 yards, 23.8 avg., unranked

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 WASHINGTON (N)
 17 At Tampa Bay (N)
 24 Green Bay (N, at Milwaukee)
 30 MIAMI (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8 DETROIT	(ovl) 24-27
	15 At San Francisco	5-14
	22 DENVER	—
	29 At Los Angeles Rams	30-28
October	6 SAN FRANCISCO	17-35
	13 At Seattle	—
	20 NEW ORLEANS	13-17
	27 At Dallas	—
November	3 WASHINGTON	14-27
	10 At Philadelphia	26-10
	17 LOS ANGELES RAMS	10-24
	24 At Chicago	—
December	1 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS	—
	8 At Kansas City	—
	15 MINNESOTA	20-27
	22 At New Orleans	36-28

ATLANTA DEFENSE



STEVE BARTKOWSKI

Randy White and Chicago's Dan Hampton.

Henning's outlook for the season is more honest than hopeful. "It's no secret. We've got to find some people who can perform at a higher level than we performed at a year ago." He hopes two new people will come from the draft: offensive tackle Bill Fralic of Pitt and defensive lineman Mike Gann of Notre Dame.

Despite his age, Bartkowski's completion percentage has increased for seven straight years. He led the league last year at an impressive 67.3 percent. With only Mike Moroski and Dave Archer backing him up, Bartkowski's availability becomes even more crucial. While his arm remains perhaps the strongest in the game, his durability will never be in question. He is fragile; hasn't lasted a full season since 1982. As insurance, the Falcons added four-year veteran Bob Holly, who played under Henning in Washington, and Atlanta's sixth-round draft choice in 1984, Duke's Ben Bennett. The Falcons signed Bennett after the former all-time-leading NCAA passer spent a year with Jacksonville in the United States Football League.

The loss of Johnson hurt the entire receiving corps. He made most of his receptions from the H-back position coming out of the back-

field. That alleviated pressure on starting wide receivers Stacey Bailey and Alfred Jackson. Bartkowski threw nine touchdown passes in the first four games. In the last eight, he threw only five. Johnson went down in game six. Although Bailey and Jackson both enjoyed productive seasons statistically, the scoring power of the offense was diminished. Floyd Hodge, Willie Curran, Perry Tuttle, and Virgil Seay will vie for backup spots. Arthur Cox and Cliff Benson man the starting tight-end and H-back positions, respectively, and both have been pleasant surprises. Between them, they caught 67 passes, more than any other tight-end combination in Falcon history.

Gerald Riggs proved a more than adequate replacement for the injured Andrews in the Falcons' one-back set. He finished fourth in the league in rushing, with 1,486 yards, and established five club records despite missing a game and a half with an ankle injury. Riggs's talent and production leaves Henning with a potential question he would love to face: what to do if Andrews comes back. The answer might depend on whether Johnson returns. If the Falcons can't pass as well as they would like, they might have to run the ball more. Talented third back Lynn Cain would approve. The acquisition of veteran Joe Washington gives Henning another dimension.

Falcon quarterbacks were sacked 67 times, the standard for ineptitude in the league. Again, injuries were a good excuse, but the Falcons have an offensive line with 39-year-old Jeff Van Note still starting at center. Including the tight ends, the Falcons had 23 holding penalties. Left tackle remains in the capable hands of Mike Kenn and right tackle is a question Fralic could quickly answer. Brett Miller played last year despite a broken wrist and will be challenged by Fralic and Eric Sanders. Left guard R.C. Thieleman played with a "bowling ball" cast on a broken index finger. Right guard John Scully is solid. Joe Pellegrini, Wayne Radloff, Mike Chapman, and Dan Dufour provide depth.

Although the defense moved up from 25th to 13th last year, there is room for additional improvement. Therefore, Bryan will move from right tackle to left end. Mike Pitts will move from left end to left tackle. Gary Burley will move from left tackle to right tackle. Right end Don Smith will stay put. Gann could challenge inside. The Falcons made only 38 sacks last year, led by Smith's 6 1/2. Andrew Provenge, Dan Benish, and Roy Harris are backups.

Injuries hurt the Falcons at linebacker a year ago, so there will be pressure on outside starters John Rade and Al Richardson. David Frye collected 4 1/2 sacks and played well enough for Rade on the left side to merit a full-time look. Young Thomas Benson is also a factor on the left side. Jeff Jackson and Rydell Malancon will challenge Richardson on the right side. In the middle, veterans Buddy Curry and Fulton Kuykendall managed to share time and stay healthy last year and will again be expected to provide solid leadership and performance for the defense.

Change in the secondary is a possibility only one year after safety James Britt and right cornerback Kenny Johnson switched positions. Johnson led the team in interceptions, with five, and Britt led the team in passes defended. But left cornerback Bobby Butler is under fire after making two interceptions in the opener and none the rest of the way. Safety

Tom Pridemore is being challenged by Scott Case. The Falcons intercepted only 12 passes all season.

When Johnson is healthy, the Falcon special teams are automatically exciting. He is only 55 yards shy of becoming the NFL's all-time-leading punt returner. Sylvester Stamps was among the leading kickoff returners before he was hampered by an injury. Ralph Giaconmarro was fifth in the NFL in punting and Mick Luckhurst hit a commendable 20 of 24 field goals.

FALCONS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos.	ht.	wt.	NFL exp.	age	college
31	Andrews, William	RB	6-0	213	6	30	Auburn
16	Archer, Dave	QB	6-2	203	2	23	Iowa State
39	Austin, Cliff	RB	6-0	190	3	25	Clemson
82	Bailey, Stacey	WR	6-0	157	4	25	San Jose St.
10	Bartkowski, Steve	QB	6-4	218	11	33	California
69	Benish, Dan	DT	6-5	265	3	24	Clemson
	Bennett, Ben	QB	6-0	200	1	23	Duke
87	Benson, Cliff	TE	6-4	234	2	24	Purdue
53	Benson, Thomas	LB	6-2	235	2	24	Oklahoma
26	Britt, James	CB	6-0	185	3	25	LSU
77	Bryan, Rick	DE	6-4	260	2	23	Oklahoma
73	Burley, Gary	DT	6-3	290	10	32	Pittsburgh
23	Butler, Bobby	CB	5-11	175	5	26	Florida St.
21	Cain, Lynn	RB	6-1	205	7	30	Southern Cal
25	Case, Scott	S	6-0	178	2	23	Oklahoma
70	Chapman, Mike	C/G	6-4	250	2	24	Texas
88	Cox, Arthur	TE	6-2	255	3	24	Texas Southern
89	Curran, William	WR	5-11	175	4	26	UCLA
50	Curry, Buddy	LB	6-4	228	6	27	North Carolina
71	Dufour, Dan	OL	6-5	280	3	25	UCLA
58	Frye, David	LB	6-2	213	3	24	Purdue
34	Galsion, Blane	S	6-1	188	5	27	Hawaii
29	Gay, Stan	DB	5-10	180	1	25	Alabama
1	Giaconmarro, Ralph	P	6-1	194	3	24	Penn State
75	Harris, Roy	DT	6-2	266	2	24	Florida
30	Haworth, Steve	S	6-0	188	3	24	Oklahoma
83	Hodge, Floyd	WR	6-0	195	4	26	Utah
8	Holly, Bob	QB	6-2	205	4	25	Princeton
85	Jackson, Alfred	WR	6-0	190	8	30	Texas
51	Jackson, Jeff	LB	6-1	228	2	24	Auburn
81	Johnson, Billy	WR	5-9	177	11	33	Widener
37	Johnson, Kenny	S	5-11	172	6	27	Mississippi St.
78	Kenn, Mike	T	6-7	266	8	29	Michigan
	Kiewel, Jeff	T	6-4	252	1	25	Arizona
54	Kuykendall, Fulton	LB	6-4	228	11	32	UCLA
80	Landrum, Mike	TE	6-2	231	2	24	So. Mississippi
55	Levenick, Dave	LB	6-3	220	3	26	Wisconsin
18	Luckhurst, Mick	K	6-2	183	5	27	California
52	Malancon, Rydell	LB	6-1	219	2	23	LSU
49	Matthews, Allama	TE	6-2	230	3	24	Vanderbilt
40	Meyers, Eddie	RB	5-9	205	1	26	Navy
62	Miller, Brett	T	6-7	285	3	27	Iowa
15	Moroski, Mike	QB	6-4	203	7	28	Cal-Davis
	Norman, Tommy	WR	5-11	174	1	27	Jackson St.
64	Pellegrini, Joe	OL	6-4	258	4	28	Harvard
74	Pitts, Mike	DT	6-5	270	3	25	Alabama
27	Pridemore, Tom	S	5-11	186	8	29	West Virginia
72	Provenge, Andrew	DE	6-3	260	3	24	South Carolina
59	Rade, John	LB	6-1	225	3	25	Boise State
	Radloff, Wayne	C	6-5	263	1	24	Georgia
56	Richardson, Al	LB	6-3	222	6	28	Georgia Tech
42	Riggs, Gerald	RB	6-1	230	4	25	Arizona St.
67	Sanders, Eric	T	6-7	280	5	27	Nevada-Reno
61	Scully, John	G	6-6	255	5	27	Notre Dame
41	Seay, Virgil	WR	5-8	180	5	27	Troy St.
48	Smail, Gerald	CB	5-11	192	8	29	San Jose St.
65	Smith, Don	DE	6-5	270	7	28	Miami
84	Stamps, Sylvester	RB	5-7	166	2	24	Jackson St.
96	Taylor, Johnny	LB	6-4	240	2	25	Hawaii
	Thieleman, R.C.	G	6-4	262	9	30	Arkansas
86	Tuttle, Perry	WR	6-0	180	4	26	Clemson
32	Tyrrell, Tim	RB	6-1	201	2	24	No. Illinois
57	Van Note, Jeff	C	6-2	250	17	39	Kentucky

DRAFTES

rd.	name	pos.	ht.	wt.	college
1	Fralic, Bill	OT	6-5	285	Pittsburgh
2	Gann, Mike	DE	6-5	256	Notre Dame
4	Harry, Emile	WR	5-10	168	Stanford
6	Pleasant, Reggie	CB	5-9	175	Clemson
8	Lee, Ashley	S	6-1	196	Virginia Tech
8	Washington, Ronnie	LB	6-1	234	NE Louisiana St.
9	Moon, Micah	LB	6-1	230	North Carolina
10	Martin, Brent	C	6-3	268	Stanford
11	Ayres, John	CB	5-11	183	Illinois
12	Whisenant, Ken	TE	6-2	226	Georgia Tech



BILL FRALIC

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Even the droll drawl of Bum Phillips is wearing thin in New Orleans, where the patience of the Saints is no longer a virtue. The Saints' line is getting harder and harder to buy. Owner John Mecom couldn't stand it any longer and discovered his club was even harder to sell. Auto dealer Tom Benson made his bid, but fellow NFL owners examined the deal with eyebrows raised, resembling the typical Saints' fan.

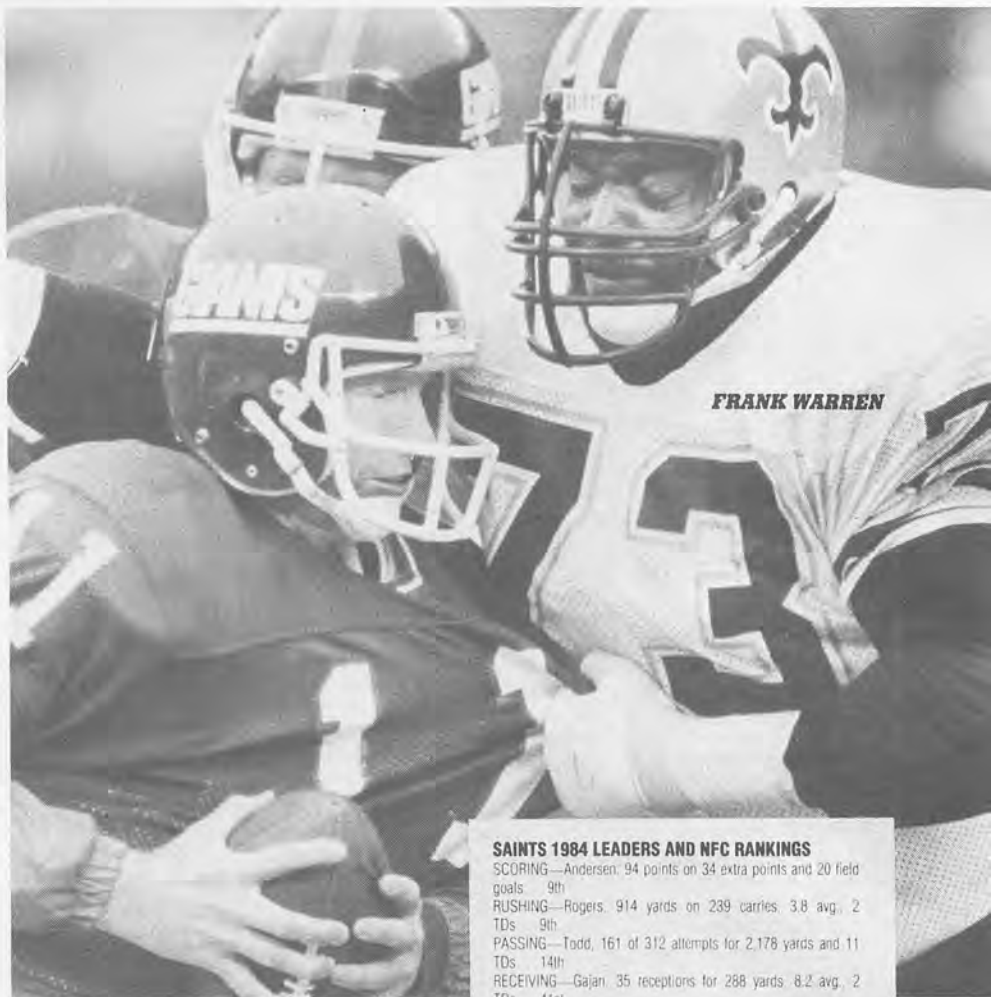
This is a team that gave up its 1984 No. 1 draft choice for Earl Campbell, a former savior for coach Phillips in Houston whose value in New Orleans remains unclear. The Saints insist Campbell is staying away from Cajun cooking and trimming his weight from a guard-sized 250 to a fullback-sized 225. They backed up their conviction by trading their younger No. 1 draft choice, George Rogers, to the Redskins. Last year, the two former Heisman Trophy winners tried to share playing time and fullback Hokie Gajan ended up the most valuable offensive player. Gajan, supposedly a journeyman compared with Campbell and Rogers, merely led all NFL starting backs with a six-yard rushing average. He led the Saints in touchdowns, with seven, and generally played with the kind of exuberance required of more Saints if they want to escape an 18-year rut. Yes, it's still true: the Saints never have enjoyed the euphoria of a single winning season.

Will the Saints come alive in 1985? ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ. Sadly, this is a franchise that seems intent on making Rip Van Winkle a permanent mascot. Bum's problems start on offense, where the Saints finished 24th in passing, and end on defense, where they finished 26th against the run. Fortunately, they employ an excellent punter in Brian Hansen, a Pro Bowler who gets plenty of work.

A year ago, the Saints gave up another No. 1 draft choice to land former Jets' quarterback Richard Todd. But Todd couldn't have finished any lower among NFC passers and now finds himself in a battle with Dave Wilson for the starting job. Wilson is coming off surgery to repair a rotator cuff on his passing shoulder. "Dave and Richard are young enough and good enough," said Phillips. "One of them will win the job in training camp. I believe you have to have competition to get better." Phillips calls Guido Merkens as good a third quarterback as there is in the league, so Saints' fans will be glad to know their club is all set at that position. With Wilson starting the final two games last season, the Saints did demonstrate the one quality that all coaches are grateful to see. "Nobody gave up. Our season-ending win over the Giants is proof of that," said Phillips.

In fairness to the Saints' quarterback, whoever he might be, it would be simpler to evaluate his performance if his team had faster receivers, better runners, and healthier blockers. Injuries to the offensive line and the absence of a healthy nose tackle are two of the main excuses for the Saints' woes last season. But repairs in those two areas somehow don't seem adequate to turn this thing around.

Campbell and Rogers each averaged only 3.8 yards a carry, not as good as Todd's 4.0 when scrambling. Between them, they scored two touchdowns, both by Rogers. In the past, Phillips has sung the praises of Wayne Wilson, but Wilson had a 3.5-yard average and only one touchdown. The dilemma for Phillips is



FRANK WARREN

whether he thinks it is really prudent to build an NFL rushing attack around Hokie Gajan.

The versatile Gajan also led the Saints in receiving, with 35 catches, again a commentary on the team's lack of air power. The starting wide receivers are 5-10 Jeff Groth and 6-6 Tyrone Young. The short and long of it is they would make better third and fourth receivers than starters, although Young demonstrated some big-play capability. Backups Lindsay Scott and Eugene Goodlow are supposed to be better than backups, but they are not. At tight end, Hoby Brenner led the club with six touchdown catches and a very respectable 19.8-yard average, not bad for a player who is not supposed to get deep. Junior Miller and Larry Hardy are reserves who used to start.

On the offensive line, 42 of 80 possible starts were lost to injury by the original front five, so the Saints are due for some good luck in 1985. Kelvin Clark started in all spots except center and will return to challenge Chris Ward for the starting left-tackle position. Both are former No. 1 draft choices of other teams, collected by Phillips along with Todd and Campbell. Right tackle Stan Brock is coming off a knee injury. Center Steve Korte and guards Brad Edelman and Louis Oubre are slated to start in the middle, backed by Joel Hilgenberg and David Carter. Second-round draft pick Daren Gilbert of Cal State-Fullerton should help.

The Saints have two Pro Bowl players and the league's No. 1 pass defense on the other side of the ball, but it wasn't enough to keep

SAINTS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Andersen, 94 points on 34 extra points and 20 field goals
9th
RUSHING—Rogers, 914 yards on 239 carries, 3.8 avg., 2 TDs
9th
PASSING—Todd, 161 of 312 attempts for 2,176 yards and 11 TDs
14th
RECEIVING—Gajan, 35 receptions for 288 yards, 8.2 avg., 2 TDs
41st
INTERCEPTIONS—Waymer, 4 for 9 yards, 2.3 avg., 23rd
PUNTING—Hansen, 69 punts, 43.8 avg., longest 66 yards
1st
PUNT RETURNS—Fields, 27 for 236 yards, 8.7 avg.
4th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Anthony, 22 for 490 yards, 22.3 avg.
4th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 At New England
17 HOUSTON (N)
24 TAMPA BAY (N)
30 At San Diego (N)

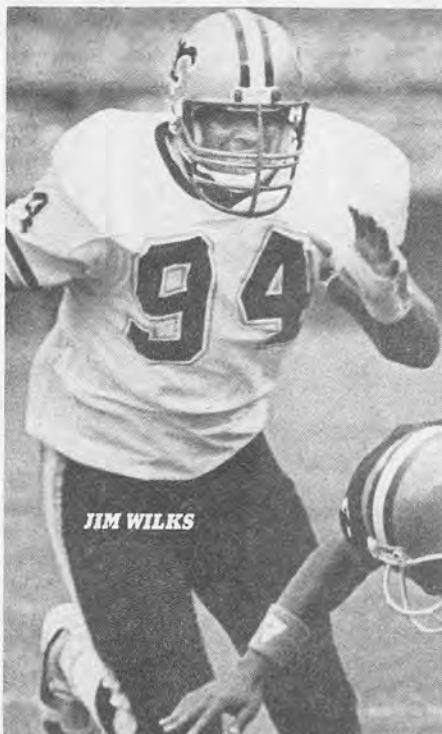
1985 SCHEDULE		1984 SCORES
September	8 KANSAS CITY	—
	15 At Denver	—
	22 TAMPA BAY	17-13
	29 At San Francisco	20-30
October	6 PHILADELPHIA	—
	13 At Los Angeles Raiders	—
	20 At Atlanta	17-13
	27 NEW YORK GIANTS	10-3
November	3 At Los Angeles Rams	21-34
	10 SEATTLE	—
	17 Green Bay at Milwaukee	13-23
	24 At Minnesota	—
December	1 LOS ANGELES RAMS	10-28
	8 At St. Louis	34-24
	15 SAN FRANCISCO	3-35
	22 ATLANTA	28-36

opponents from scoring 23 points a game on them, nineteenth in the league. Bruce Clark is one all-star, at left end, who is ably backed by young James Geathers. Jim Wilks is the other end, who could get a push from Geathers for a starting job, although the Saints like to rotate defensive linemen throughout the game. At nose tackle, veteran Derland Moore was hampered by an ankle injury for most of the season, which is one reason opponents ran so well against the Saints. If Tony Elliott can overcome off-the-field problems and former end

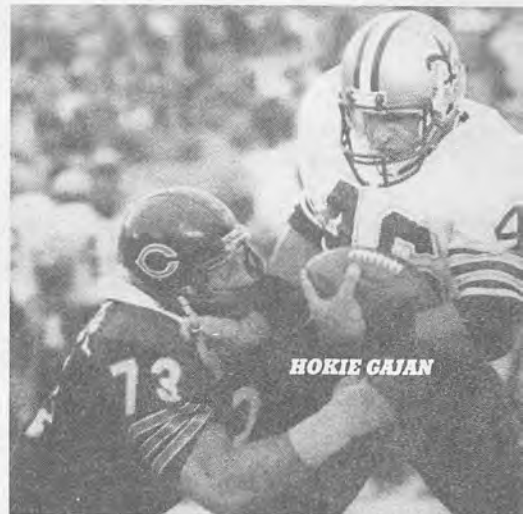
Frank Warren can develop at nose tackle, the Saints hope to stem the running tide.

Rickey Jackson, at left outside linebacker, is another all-star. He is a big-play talent who cannot do it all. With the No. 1 draft choice they got for Rogers, they selected Tennessee linebacker Alvin Toles, who is coming off a broken leg. Inside starter Dennis Winston, 30, was nagged by injuries last season. The other inside man, Jim Kovach, requested a trade. Weakside backer Whitney Paul plays better against the pass than the run, when his 215 pounds becomes an inviting target.

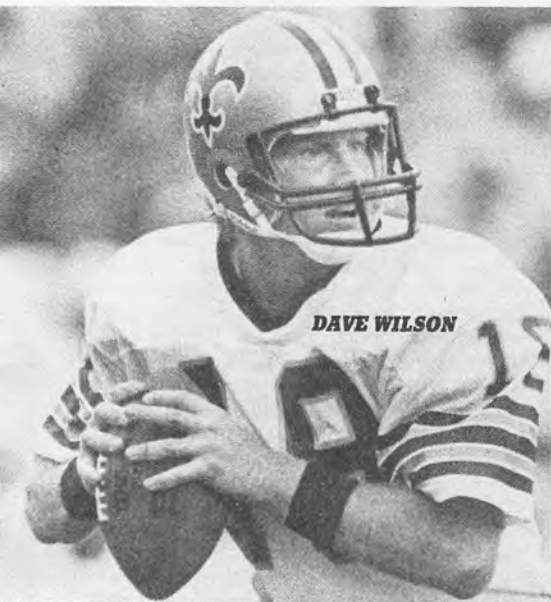
The No. 1 ranking against the pass is somewhat misleading because opponents didn't need to pass. In fact, the Saints had fewer passes attempted against them than any other team. Nevertheless, cornerbacks Dave Waymer and Johnnie Poe and safeties Russell Gary and Frank Wattlelet are not the club's biggest worry. They play fairly well and are backed by Rodney Lewis, Bobby Johnson, and the latest in a long tradition of great Saints' names, Jitter Fields. He is a decent punt-return man, and the Saints have decent special teams. Running back Tyrone Anthony and wide receiver Kenny Duckett help Fields return kickoffs. Hansen's excellent punting is complemented by the better-than-average place-kicking of Morten Andersen.



JIM WILKS



HOKIE GAJAN



DAVE WILSON



BRUCE CLARK



RICKEY JACKSON

SAINTS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	NFL exp	age	college
7	Andersen, Morten	K	6-2	205	4	25	Michigan St.
22	Anthony, Tyrone	RB	5-11	212	2	23	North Carolina
85	Brenner, Hoby	TE	6-4	245	5	26	Southern Cal.
67	Brock, Stan	T	6-6	288	6	27	Colorado
35	Campbell, Earl	HB	5-11	233	8	30	Texas
65	Carter, David	C	6-2	275	9	32	W. Kentucky
75	Clark, Bruce	DE	6-3	281	4	27	Penn State
68	Clark, Kelvin	G	6-3	273	7	29	Nebraska
83	Duckett, Kenny	WR	6-0	179	4	26	Wake Forest
63	Edelman, Brad	G	6-6	262	4	25	Missouri
99	Elliott, Tony	NT	6-2	280	4	26	North Texas St.
26	Fields, Jitter	CB	5-8	188	2	23	Texas
46	Gajan, Hokie	FB	5-11	226	4	26	LSU
20	Gary, Russell	SS	5-11	196	5	26	Nebraska
97	Geathers, Russell	DE	6-7	267	2	25	Wichita St.
88	Goodlow, Eugene	WR	6-2	181	3	27	Kansas St.
86	Groth, Jeff	WR	5-10	181	7	28	Bowling Green
10	Hansen, Brian	P	6-3	218	2	25	Sioux Falls
28	Harding, Greg	FS	6-2	197	2	25	Nicholls St.
87	Hardy, Larry	TE	6-3	246	8	29	Jackson State
92	Haynes, James	LB	6-2	227	2	25	Miss. Valley
61	Hilgenberg, Joel	OL	6-3	253	2	23	Iowa
24	Hoage, Terry	FS	6-3	199	2	23	Georgia
57	Jackson, Rickey	LB	6-2	239	5	27	Pittsburgh
34	Johnson, Bobby	DB	6-0	187	3	25	Texas
60	Korle, Steve	C	6-2	271	3	25	Arkansas
52	Kovach, Jim	LB	6-2	239	7	29	Kentucky
64	Lalory, Dave	T	6-7	285	8	30	Purdue
93	Lewis, Gary	NT	6-3	261	2	24	Oklahoma St.
98	Lewis, Reggie	DE	6-2	251	4	31	San Diego St.
29	Lewis, Rodney	CB	5-11	186	3	26	Nebraska
19	Merkens, Guido	QB/WR	6-1	197	8	30	San Houston St.
84	Miller, Junior	TE	6-4	244	6	28	Nebraska
74	Moore, Derland	NT	6-4	273	13	34	Oklahoma
66	Dubre, Louis	G	6-4	272	4	27	Oklahoma
51	Paul, Whitney	LB	6-3	218	10	30	Colorado
53	Pelluer, Scott	LB	6-2	227	5	26	Washington St.
25	Poe, Johnnie	CB	6-1	194	5	26	Missouri
58	Redd, Glen	LB	6-1	231	4	27	BYU
41	Rogers, Jimmy	HB	5-10	195	6	30	Oklahoma
80	Scott, Lindsay	WR	6-1	200	4	25	Georgia
96	Thorp, Don	NT	6-4	260	2	23	Illinois
82	Tice, John	TE	6-5	243	3	25	Maryland
11	Todd, Richard	QB	6-2	212	10	32	Alabama
72	Ward, Chris	T	6-3	269	8	30	Ohio St.
73	Warren, Frank	DE	6-4	278	5	26	Auburn
49	Wattlelet, Frank	FS	6-0	185	5	27	Kansas
44	Waymer, Dave	CB	6-1	188	6	27	Notre Dame
94	Wilks, Jim	DE	6-5	265	5	27	San Diego St.
18	Wilson, Dave	QB	6-3	211	4	26	Illinois
45	Wilson, Tim	FB	6-3	237	9	30	Maryland
30	Wilson, Wayne	HB	6-3	220	7	28	Shepherd
56	Winston, Dennis	LB	6-0	244	9	30	Arkansas
89	Young, Tyrone	WR	6-6	192	3	25	Florida

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Toles, Alvin	LB	6-1	211	Tennessee
2	Gilbert, Daren	OT	6-6	285	Cal Fullerton
3	Del Rio, Jack	LB	6-4	235	Southern Cal
4	Allen, Billy	DB	5-11	210	Florida St.
7	Martin, Eric	WR	6-1	195	LSU
8	Kohlbrand, Joe	DE	6-4	242	Miami
9	Johnson, Earl	DB	6-0	190	South Carolina
12	Songy, Treg	DB	6-1	195	Tulane

NFC East



JOE THEISMANN

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

The Washington Redskins were so wounded last year that it was hard to remember they won their third straight NFC East Division title. After they lost the NFC semifinal playoff game to the Chicago Bears, they sounded like they had sunk to the depths two years after winning Super Bowl XVII.

They counted 30 players who were listed on injured reserve at some point. Pride was No. 31. So haunted were they by the specter of injury that they noticed an eerie symmetry to the hospital list and decided it told the story of their entire season. They were leading the Bears, 3-0, in the NFC semifinal when John Riggins made a key first down on a fourth and one. But guard Ken Huff broke an ankle on the play and the Redskin running game was never the same. In reviewing the carnage of the season, they discovered that Huff was the first of the Redskins to go on injured reserve when he dislocated a kneecap in the first preseason game. Among other injured players attempting comebacks in 1985 are former Pro Bowlers Mark Murphy, Charlie Brown, Tony Peters, and Jeff Bostic. Then there is Riggins himself, who must decide whether there is any mileage left in a body classified as an antique for a running back.

Regardless of Riggins's plans, the Redskins moved to beef up their running attack by obtaining former Heisman Trophy winner George Rogers from the New Orleans Saints. It enables coach Joe Gibbs to maintain his offensive philosophy of run first. Quarterback Joe Theismann can't produce points without help, and Theismann isn't getting any younger himself. In fact, the Redskins may be on the brink of a major rebuilding program.

"Several guys on our team are going to be making some major decisions that no doubt will affect our team," said Gibbs. "This year we have an unusual number of guys who will be sizing up their careers."

In spite of changing times, however, the Redskins are the defending champions again, and they did overcome their problems last year to win their third straight title. To forecast anything less for 1985 is to tread heavily on a growing tradition of excellence.

"People have a tendency to talk down about last year," said Gibbs. "I thought it was a real gutsy performance by our team the way we bounced back at the end of the year when it was all on the line and the Redskins were the only ones who were able to step up and take it. For me, it's the realization that we were one touchdown away from going to the championship game last year. How can we make up that one touchdown?"

One touchdown wouldn't seem to make that much difference to a team that has averaged over 30 points a game under Theismann for the last two seasons. This is a team whose 39-10 record over the last three years is the NFL's best. Theismann deserves much of the credit and shows no signs of slowing down despite his age. "He seems to play better each year," said Gibbs. Statistically, Theismann failed to improve his passer rating in 1984 for the first time since 1980, but he still finished sixth in the league. Behind Theismann, Gibbs wants to look at the untested Jay Schroeder and Babe Laufenberg during the preseason. "We'll see where they are and hope one of them steps forward to be the guy who down the road will eventually take Joe's place."

REDSKINS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Moseley, 120 points on 48 extra points and 24 field goals . . . 2nd
RUSHING—Riggins, 1,239 yards on 327 carries, 3.8 avg., 14 TDs . . . 6th
PASSING—Theismann, 283 of 477 attempts for 3,391 yards and 24 TDs . . . 1st
RECEIVING—Monk, 106 receptions for 1,372 yards, 12.9 avg., 7 TDs . . . 1st
INTERCEPTIONS—Dean, 7 for 114 yards, 16.3 avg., 2 TDs . . . 5th
PUNTING—Hayes, 72 punts, 39.4 avg., longest 59 yards . . . 11th
PUNT RETURNS—Nelms, 49 for 428 yards, 8.7 avg. . . 5th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Nelms, 42 for 860 yards, 20.5 avg. . . 10th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	10	At Atlanta (N)
	18	At Los Angeles Raiders
	23	NEW ENGLAND (N)
	30	At Tampa Bay (N)

1985 SCHEDULE		1984 SCORES
September	9 At Dallas (N)	30-28
	15 HOUSTON	—
	22 PHILADELPHIA	20-0
	29 At Chicago	—
October	7 ST. LOUIS (N)	29-27
	13 DETROIT	28-24
	20 At New York Giants	13-37
	27 At Cleveland	—
November	3 At Atlanta	27-14
	10 DALLAS	34-14
	18 NEW YORK GIANTS (N)	30-14
	24 At Pittsburgh	—
December	1 SAN FRANCISCO	31-35
	8 At Philadelphia	10-16
	15 CINCINNATI	—
	21 At St. Louis	24-26

Rogers should immediately solidify the running-back situation, where the 36-year-old Riggins and his 32-year-old replacement, Joe Washington, seemed consistently plagued by the ravages of age. (Washington was traded to Atlanta.) Gibbs likes to have his teams run at least 30 times a game. In games in which they have, the Redskins are 38-4. Rogers should be able to handle that kind of load. Gibbs likes special teams' standout Otis Wonsley, who could get a look, and he was impressed by everything about rookie Keith Griffin except his fumbles.

Receiving is an area of much less concern. The expected return of Charlie Brown will only make a good situation better. Without the threat of Brown, Art Monk nevertheless set an NFL record with 106 catches last season. Calvin Muhammad filled in adequately, but Brown is a two-time Pro Bowl participant. With Don Warren, Rick Walker, Mark McGrath, and Clint Didier, Gibbs is one of the few coaches in football with virtually no worries at tight end. Warren is a good blocker and clutch player. Walker and Didier provide the versatility required in the one-back offense. Gibbs also likes Mike Williams and Anthony Jones.

On the offensive line, the Hogs appear leaner than in years past, and 37-year-old "Head Hog" George Starke may decide he is tired of bringing home the bacon. He was hurt and replaced by former guard Mark May at right tackle. That put the 32-year-old Huff at right guard. Gibbs is concerned about the return of center Jeff Bostic from a knee injury. He might not know until the season starts. Rick Donnalley was a good replacement. On the left side, all-stars Joe Jacoby and Russ Grimm are solid, but there is no depth.

The line on the other side of the ball gives Gibbs good cause for confidence. It helped the Redskins set a team record with 66 sacks and also allowed just 99.3 yards rushing per game, second-best in the league. "One of the strongest parts of our team," said Gibbs. Ends Dexter Manley and Charles Mann both played well, with Manley coming off a down year to lead the club in sacks, with 13½. Competition behind them will be interesting among

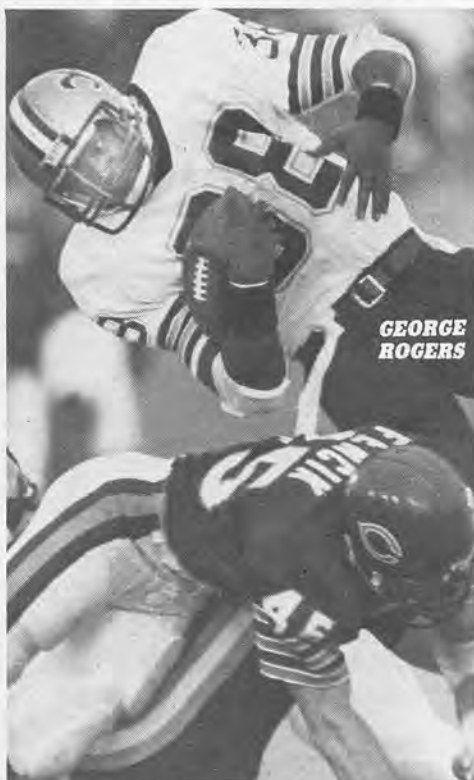
veterans Tony McGee and Tom Beasley and injured youngsters Todd Liebenstein and Steve Hamilton. Inside, Darryl Grant and Dave Butz are still going strong, although Butz is 35. Veteran Perry Brooks provides depth.

Linebacking is another solid area for defensive coordinator Richie Petitbon. Gibbs thinks inside linebacker Neal Olkewicz played "up to his ability better than anybody on our team last year." Larry Kubin and Pete Cronan also are favorites of the coaches. Outside, Rich Milot, Monte Coleman, and Mel Kaufman give the Redskins experience against both the run and pass. Gibbs calls Kaufman one of his most underrated players.

At cornerback, the Redskins are in excel-

lent shape. Vernon Dean shook injury and returned to his rookie form last season. Darrell Green made the Pro Bowl and grew in confidence every week. To further solidify the position, the Redskins traded up to land San Diego State's Tory Nixon in the second round of the draft. Ken Coffey, Mark Murphy, Curtis Jordan, Greg Williams, and Tony Peters will fight it out for the two safety spots.

Ageless Mark Moseley finished second in NFC scoring last year, although he hit only two of seven field-goal attempts outside 40 yards. Jeff Hayes is a better-than-average kickoff man and punter. Mike Nelms remains one of the league's premier kick and punt returners. The Redskins almost always cover kicks well.



GEORGE ROGERS



JOHN RIGGINS



RICH MILOT

REDSKINS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	college
67	Beasley, Tom	DE	6-5	248	31	8	Virginia Tech
53	Bostic, Jeff	C	6-2	258	27	6	Clemson
69	Brooks, Perry	DT	6-3	270	31	8	Southern
87	Brown, Charlie	WR	5-10	179	27	4	S.C. State
65	Butz, Dave	DT	6-7	295	35	13	Purdue
48	Coffey, Ken	SS	6-0	190	25	3	SW Texas St.
51	Coleman, Monte	LB	6-2	230	28	7	Cent. Arkansas
54	Cronan, Peter	LB	6-2	238	30	8	Boston College
32	Dean, Vernon	CB	5-11	178	26	4	San Diego St.
86	Didier, Clint	TE	6-5	240	26	4	Portland St.
76	Donnalley, Rick	OL	6-2	257	27	4	North Carolina
89	Garrett, Alvin	WR	5-7	185	30	6	Angelo St.
77	Grant, Darryl	DT	6-1	275	26	5	Rice
28	Green, Darrell	CB	5-8	170	25	3	Texas A&M
35	Griffin, Keith	RB	5-8	185	24	2	Miami
68	Grimm, Russ	G	6-3	275	26	5	Pittsburgh
5	Hayes, Jeff	P	5-11	175	26	4	North Carolina
61	Huff, Ken	G	6-4	265	32	11	North Carolina
66	Jacoby, Joe	T	6-7	305	26	5	Louisville
82	Jones, Anthony	TE	6-3	248	25	2	Wichita St.
22	Jordan, Curtis	FS	6-2	205	31	9	Texas Tech
40	Kane, Rick	RB	6-0	200	31	9	San Jose St.
55	Kaufman, Mel	LB	6-2	218	27	5	Cal Poly SLO
63	Kimball, Bruce	G	6-2	260	29	4	Massachusetts
50	Kubin, Larry	LB	6-2	234	26	4	Penn State
12	Laufenberg, Babe	QB	6-2	195	26	2	Indiana
79	Liebenstein, Todd	DE	6-6	255	25	3	UNLV
72	Manley, Dexter	DE	6-3	250	26	5	Oklahoma St.
71	Mann, Charles	DE	6-6	260	24	3	Nevada-Reno
84	Mault, Rich	WR	6-0	195	31	8	Penn State
73	May, Mark	T	6-6	295	26	5	Pittsburgh
78	McGee, Tony	DE	6-3	249	36	15	Bishop
83	McGrath, Mark	WR	5-11	75	28	4	Montana St.
57	Milot, Rich	LB	6-4	237	28	7	Penn State
81	Monk, Art	WR	6-3	209	28	6	Syracuse
30	Moore, Jeff	RB	6-0	196	29	6	Jackson St.
3	Moseley, Mark	K	6-0	204	37	14	S.F. Austin
89	Muhammad, Calvin	WR	6-0	190	27	4	Texas Southern
29	Murphy, Mark	FS	6-4	210	30	9	Colgate
21	Nelms, Mike	WR	6-1	202	30	6	Baylor
52	Olkewicz, Neal	LB	6-0	233	28	7	Maryland
23	Peters, Tony	SS	6-1	190	32	10	Oklahoma
44	Riggins, John	RB	6-2	240	36	14	Kansas
	Rogers, George	RB	6-2	225	27	5	South Carolina
10	Schroeder, Jay	QB	6-4	215	24	2	UCLA
26	Smith, Ricky	CB	6-0	182	25	4	Alabama St.
74	Starke, George	T	6-5	260	37	13	Columbia
	Sverchek, Paul	DT	6-3	256	24	2	Cal Poly SLO
7	Theismann, Joe	QB	6-0	198	36	12	Notre Dame
62	Towns, Morris	T	6-4	263	31	9	Missouri
88	Walker, Rick	TE	6-4	235	30	9	UCLA
85	Warren, Don	TE	6-4	242	29	7	San Diego St.
24	Washington, Anthony	CB	6-1	204	27	5	Fresno State
47	Williams, Greg	FS	5-11	185	26	4	Miss. St.
	Williams, Mike	TE	6-4	251	26	3	Alabama A&M
39	Wonsley, Otis	RB	5-10	214	28	5	Alcorn St.

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
2	Nixon, Tory	DB	5-11	172	San Diego St.
5	Cherry, Raphael	RB	6-0	204	Hawaii
6	Lee, Danzell	TE	6-2	232	Lamar
7	Harris, Jamie	KR	5-6	158	Oklahoma St.
7	Vital, Lionel	RB	5-10	190	Nicholls St.
8	Wilburn, Barry	DB	6-3	186	Mississippi
9	Geier, Mitch	G	6-4	267	Troy St.
10	Orr, Terry	RB	6-3	227	Texas
11	McKenzie, Raleigh	G	6-1	272	Tennessee
11	Kimble, Gerry	TE	5-11	184	Sam Houston
12	Hamel, Dean	DT	6-3	275	Tulsa
12	Winn, Bryant	LB	6-3	231	Houston

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Fans of the St. Louis Cardinals figure they already have won their most important battle of 1985. Their team is going to stay in St. Louis. Anything extra is gravy. Owner Billy Bidwill threatened to leave the smallest stadium in the league for Phoenix or New York or anyplace he could sell more tickets to see Neil Lomax and Roy Green.

There was a time, of course, when not many people would have cared whether the Cardinals came or went, because the Cardinals themselves so often didn't know whether they were coming or going. Now, veteran receiver Pat Tilley calls this "the best offense I've seen since I've been in St. Louis." That includes some impressive memories of Terry Metcalf, Mel Gray, Ike Harris, and Jim Hart.

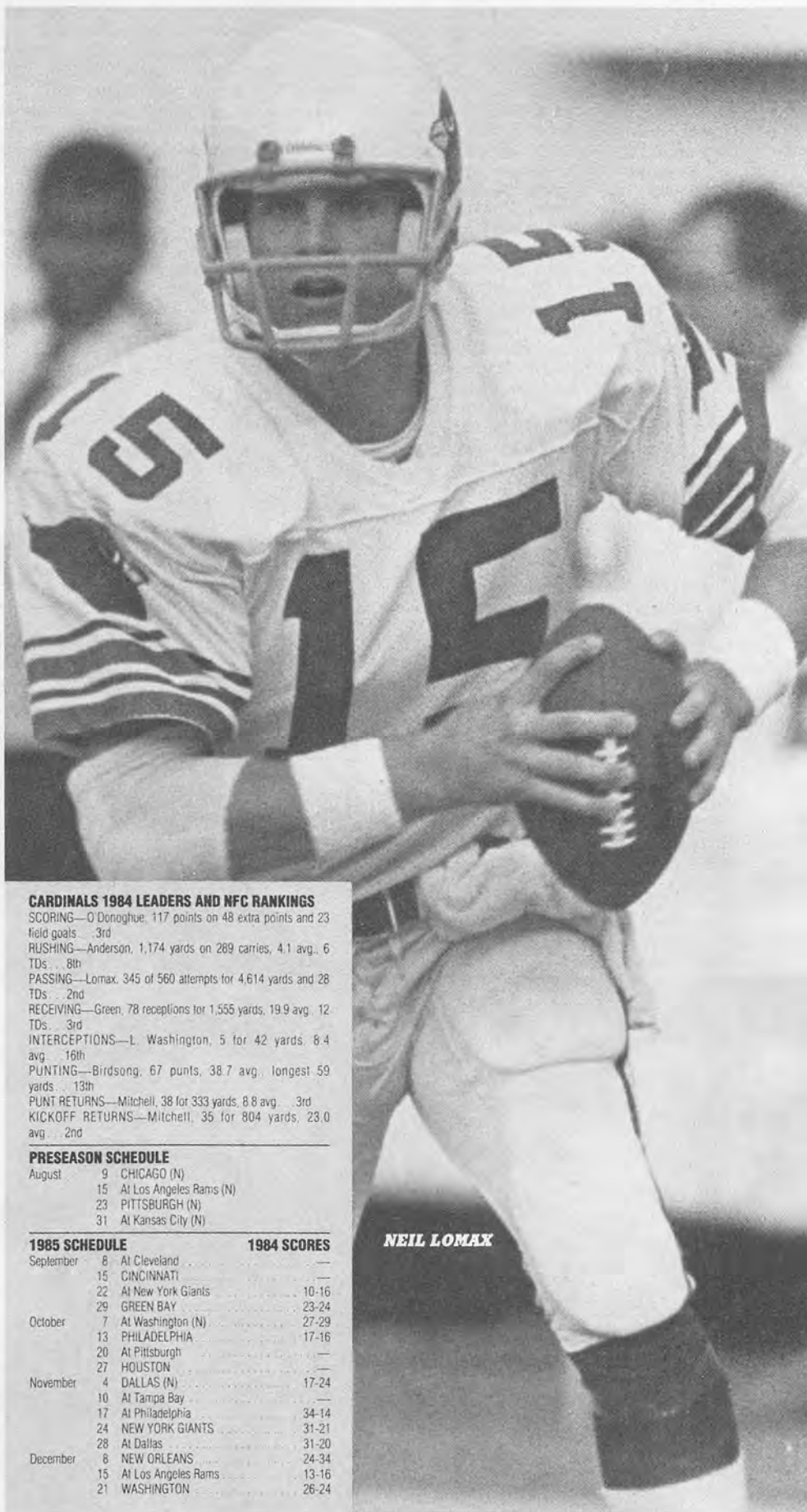
The thing that really distinguishes these Cardinals, however, is defense. After years of trying to compete with half the ingredients, the Cardinals put together a defense that jumped from 22nd in the rankings all the way to 8th. With the addition of No. 1 draft choice Freddie Joe Nunn of Mississippi and No. 2 choice Scott Bergold of Wisconsin, the Cardinals gave notice they are not satisfied.

With an offense that ranked third, the Cardinals were one of only four clubs in football boasting both an offense and a defense ranked among the top 10. Such an accomplishment leaves coach Jim Hanifan saying this about 1985: "An area we have to improve on is special teams." Indeed, a missed 50-yard field goal by Neil O'Donoghue in a 29-27 loss to the Redskins cost the Cardinals the NFC East title. Place-kicking is not the extent of Hanifan's concern, however. Punting and punt and kickoff coverage also need improvement if the Cardinals are to put together the final pieces of a playoff team.

Consistency on offense is another concern. The Cardinals lost coordinator Rod Dowhower, who became head coach of the Indianapolis Colts. Although his basic philosophy is likely to remain under former backfield coach Dick Jamieson, the Cardinals must cut down on turnovers (they lost 20 fumbles) and on penalties (they were 28th in penalty differential). The Cardinals came close enough in 1984 to entertain legitimate hope for 1985. Five of their seven losses were by a touchdown or less and one of the losses was so controversial it helped pave the way for a rule change. Roy Green was called for a controversial offensive-pass-interference penalty to nullify a touchdown in a 24-17 loss to the Cowboys. When owners met during the offseason to mull a liberalization of the interference rules, they watched film of the Green penalty and were sympathetic.

Ordinarily, Green and his quarterback, Lomax, don't elicit sympathy, only envy. They are the two main reasons for Cardinal success. If Lomax is the bread, Green is the butter. Green's 12 touchdown catches led the NFC. Only Miami's Mark Clayton, with 18, had more. Green's 19.9 yards per catch, registered on 78 catches, put him second only to Green Bay's James Lofton as a deep threat among those with at least 40 receptions. Lofton averaged 22 yards on 62 catches.

Lomax deserves much of the credit and gets it. "What we saw last year was the emergence of Neil Lomax into one of the topflight quarterbacks in the NFL," said Hanifan. To be sure, only Joe Montana, Dan Marino, and



CARDINALS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—O'Donoghue, 117 points on 48 extra points and 23 field goals... 3rd
RUSHING—Anderson, 1,174 yards on 289 carries, 4.1 avg., 6 TDs... 8th
PASSING—Lomax, 345 of 560 attempts for 4,614 yards and 28 TDs... 2nd
RECEIVING—Green, 78 receptions for 1,555 yards, 19.9 avg., 12 TDs... 3rd
INTERCEPTIONS—L. Washington, 5 for 42 yards, 8.4 avg... 16th
PUNTING—Birdsong, 67 punts, 38.7 avg., longest 59 yards... 13th
PUNT RETURNS—Mitchell, 38 for 333 yards, 8.8 avg... 3rd
KICKOFF RETURNS—Mitchell, 35 for 804 yards, 23.0 avg... 2nd

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 9 CHICAGO (N)
15 At Los Angeles Rams (N)
23 PITTSBURGH (N)
31 At Kansas City (N)

1985 SCHEDULE 1984 SCORES

September	8	At Cleveland
	15	CINCINNATI
	22	At New York Giants	10-16
	29	GREEN BAY	23-24
October	7	At Washington (N)	27-29
	13	PHILADELPHIA	17-16
	20	At Pittsburgh
	27	HOUSTON
November	4	DALLAS (N)	17-24
	10	At Tampa Bay
	17	At Philadelphia	34-14
	24	NEW YORK GIANTS	31-21
	28	At Dallas	31-20
December	6	NEW ORLEANS	24-34
	15	At Los Angeles Rams	13-16
	21	WASHINGTON	26-24

NEIL LOMAX

Tony Eason had higher passer ratings. "Neil and I share the feeling that he could be more consistent," said Hanifan. Behind Lomax, the Cardinals employ two untested second-year men: Rick McIvor and Kyle Mackey.

Green has more help at receiver in the veteran Tilley and second-year man Clyde Duncan. A first-round pick last season, Duncan has yet to catch his first pass because of injury and limited play. At tight end, Doug Marsh has blossomed into a consistent all-round blocking and catching threat who has eliminated the need to platoon.

As long as Ottis Anderson is around, the Cardinals have few worries at running back. He has developed into a fine receiver and blocker as well as a team leader. He always has been able to run, but now Hanifan calls him "a great football player." Fullback Earl Ferrell has breakaway speed; the backups, Stump Mitchell, Randy Love, Willard Harrell, and Perry Harrington, are reliable.

The defection of left tackle Luis Sharpe to the USFL will cause problems in the offensive line that Hanifan thought he had solved. He often referred to Sharpe as the best left tackle in the game. He will be difficult to replace. Art Plunkett is the likely candidate. Tootie Robbins can be dominant on the right side, and the Cardinals are solid inside with left guard Terry Stieve, right guard Joe Bostic, and center Randy Clark. Carlos Scott and Doug Dawson are backups, but the Cardinals need another tackle.

The St. Louis defense, once a poor stepchild to the offense, is anchored by a line featuring outstanding ends Curtis Greer and Al Baker. With David Galloway at right tackle and Elois Grooms, Mark Duda, and Ramsey Dardar sharing time at left tackle, the Cardinals have a solid front four that will be bolstered by the addition of Bergold. Baker has been working overtime in the weight room to help him hold down the left-end position.

At linebacker, the Cardinals jelled as soon as they let E.J. Junior stay in the middle. There aren't many better middle linebackers in the game and Junior's Pro Bowl trip proved it. Nunn should provide instant impact at either outside linebacker or as a pass-rush specialist. Thomas Howard developed fast at left linebacker after arriving from the Chiefs. He will have a head start this year. Charlie Baker overcame injury to hold down the right spot. Bob Harris should be at full strength this year and vying for a starting job. Veterans Kurt Allerman and Dave Ahrens provide depth.

The secondary is full of hard hitters and experience. Lionel Washington is becoming one of the better cornerbacks in football on the left side and Wayne Smith was consistent on the right, although the oft-injured Jeff Griffin hopes to fight for a job. Leonard Smith is steady at strong safety, and Hanifan calls free safety Benny Perrin "the blood and guts" of the secondary and "one of the finest at his position in the history of this ball club." That

puts him in the company of the incomparable Larry Wilson. Versatile Lee Nelson provides excellent insurance.

Mitigating the poor season of punter Carl Birdsong was his number of kicks inside the 20-yard line, 19, the most of his career. Hanifan likes the confidence of O'Donoghue if not his percentage of 23 for 35 field goals. "Some kickers may have reservations about that 53-yarder or the wind factor, but every time I look over at him for a possible field-goal try, he always gives me that 'thumbs-up' sign and never backs down," said Hanifan. Stump Mitchell is the best combination kickoff- and punt-return man in football. He was third in the NFC in punt returns, second in kickoff returns.

CARDINALS VETERAN ROSTER

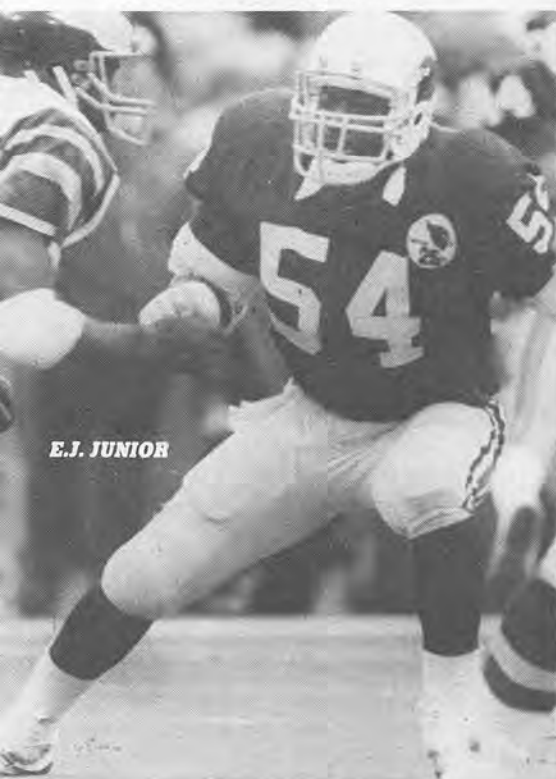
no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	NFL exp	college
58	Ahrens, Dave	LB	6-3	230	27	5	Wisconsin
51	Allerman, Kurt	LB	6-2	232	30	9	Penn State
32	Anderson, Ottis	RB	6-2	220	28	7	Miami
60	Baker, Al	DE	6-6	270	29	8	Colorado St.
52	Baker, Charlie	LB	6-2	234	28	6	New Mexico
18	Birdsong, Carl	P	6-0	192	26	5	SW Oklahoma St.
71	Bostic, Joe	G	6-3	268	28	7	Clemson
64	Clark, Randy	C	6-3	254	28	6	Northern Illinois
62	Dardar, Ramsey	DT	6-2	264	26	2	LSU
55	Davis, Billy	LB	6-4	200	24	2	Clemson
66	Dawson, Doug	G	6-3	267	24	2	Texas
86	Duncan, Clyde	WR	6-1	192	24	2	Tennessee
31	Ferrell, Earl	RB	6-0	215	27	4	E. Tennessee St.
65	Galloway, David	DT	6-3	277	26	4	Florida
84	Goode, John	TE	6-2	222	23	2	Youngstown St.
81	Green, Roy	WR	6-0	195	28	7	Henderson St.
75	Greer, Curtis	DE	6-4	258	28	6	Michigan
35	Griffin, Jeff	CB	6-0	185	27	5	Utah
78	Grooms, Elois	DT	6-4	250	32	11	Tennessee Tech
39	Harrell, Willard	RB	5-8	182	33	11	Pacific
36	Harrington, Perry	RB	5-11	210	27	6	Jackson St.
50	Harris, Bob	LB	6-2	215	25	3	Auburn
46	Hettlin, Victor	CB	6-0	184	25	3	Delaware St.
59	Howard, Thomas	LB	6-2	220	31	9	Texas Tech
54	Junior, E.J.	LB	6-3	235	26	5	Alabama
89	LaFleur, Greg	TE	6-4	236	27	5	LSU
15	Lomax, Neil	QB	6-3	214	26	5	Portland St.
40	Love, Randy	RB	6-1	205	29	7	Houston
82	Mack, Cedric	WR	6-0	190	25	3	Baylor
12	Mackey, Kyle	QB	6-2	220	23	2	East Texas St.
80	Marsh, Doug	TE	6-3	238	27	6	Michigan
76	Mays, Stafford	DE	6-2	250	27	6	Washington
14	McIvor, Rick	QB	6-4	210	25	2	Texas
30	Mitchell, Stump	RB	5-9	188	26	5	The Citadel
38	Nelson, Lee	S	5-10	185	31	10	Florida St.
57	Noga, Falariko	LB	6-1	230	23	2	Hawaii
11	O'Donoghue, Neil	K	6-6	210	32	9	Auburn
23	Perrin, Benny	S	6-2	175	26	4	Alabama
85	Pittman, Danny	WR	6-2	205	27	6	Wyoming
70	Plunkett, Art	T	6-7	262	26	5	UNLV
72	Ralph, Dan	DT	6-4	260	24	2	Oregon
63	Robbins, Tootie	T	6-4	278	27	4	E. Carolina
56	Scott, Carlos	C	6-4	300	25	3	Texas-El Paso
45	Smith, Leonard	S	5-11	190	25	3	McNeese St.
44	Smith, Wayne	CB	6-0	170	28	6	Purdue
68	Stieve, Terry	G	6-2	265	31	9	Wisconsin
83	Tilley, Pat	WR	5-10	178	32	10	Louisiana Tech
48	Washington, Lionel	CB	6-0	184	25	3	Tulane

DRAFTIES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Nunn, Freddie	LB	6-4	233	Mississippi
2	Bergold, Scott	OT	6-7	255	Wisconsin
3	Smith, Lance	OT	6-2	273	LSU
4	Wolfe, Ron	RB	6-0	222	West Virginia
5	Dunn, K.D.	TE	6-3	220	Clemson
5	Wong, Louis	G	6-4	259	BYU
6	Novacek, Jay	WR	6-4	211	Wyoming
8	Monaco, Rob	G	6-3	270	Vanderbilt
9	Williams, Scott	TE	6-1	234	Georgia
10	Williams, Dennis	RB	6-1	227	Furman
11	Anderson, Ricky	K	6-2	190	Vanderbilt
12	Young, Lonnie	DB	6-1	182	Michigan St.



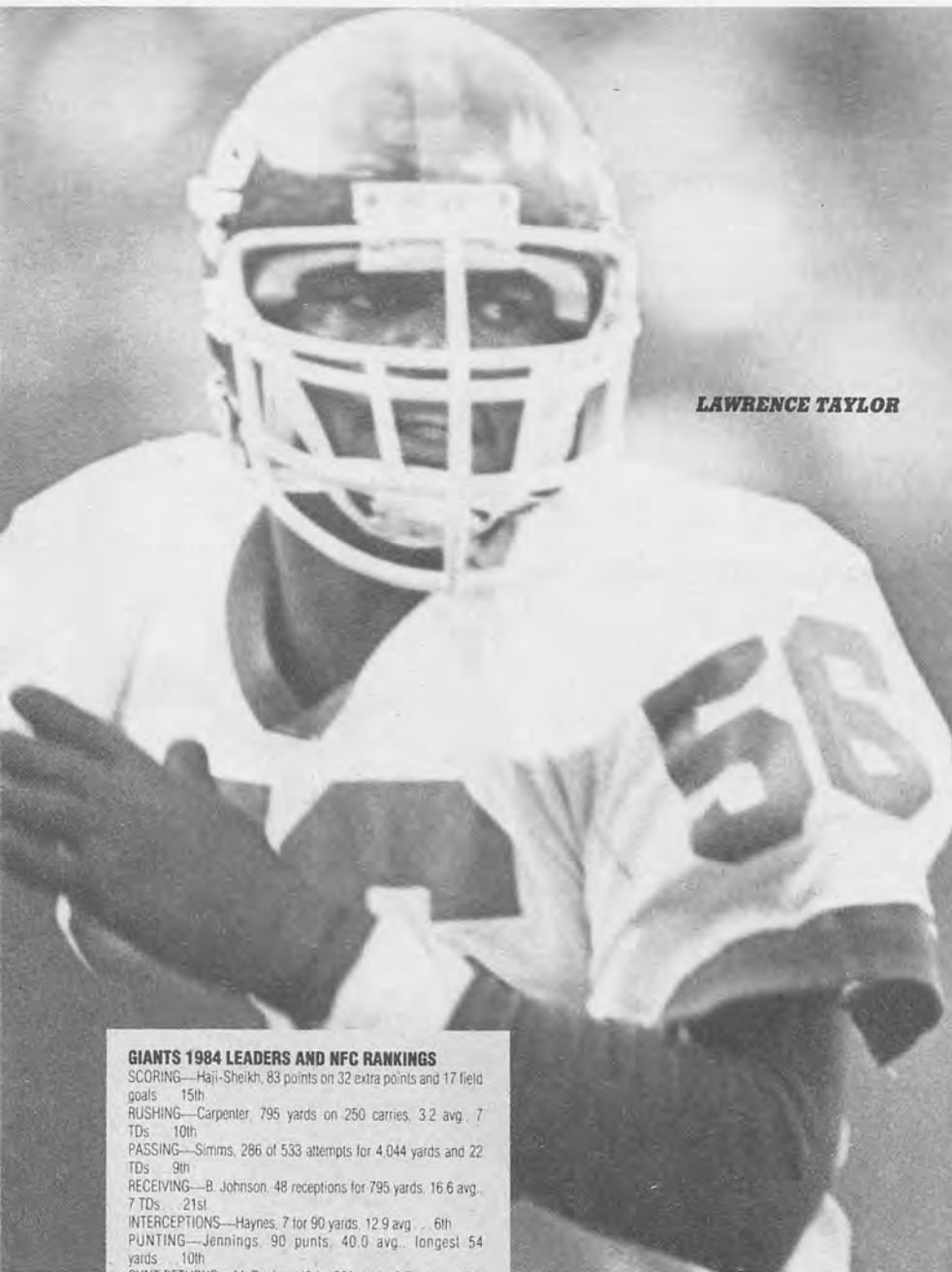
ROY GREEN



E.J. JUNIOR



OTTIS ANDERSON



LAWRENCE TAYLOR

GIANTS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Haji-Sheikh, 83 points on 32 extra points and 17 field goals . 15th
RUSHING—Carpenter, 795 yards on 250 carries, 3.2 avg. 7 TDs . 10th
PASSING—Simms, 286 of 533 attempts for 4,044 yards and 22 TDs . 9th
RECEIVING—B. Johnson, 48 receptions for 795 yards, 16.6 avg., 7 TDs . 21st
INTERCEPTIONS—Haynes, 7 for 90 yards, 12.9 avg. . 6th
PUNTING—Jennings, 90 punts, 40.0 avg., longest 54 yards . 10th
PUNT RETURNS—McConkey, 46 for 306 yards, 6.7 avg. . 12th
KICKOFF RETURNS—McConkey, 28 for 541 yards, 19.3 avg. . 15th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 3 Houston (Hall of Fame game at Canton, OH)
 10 At Denver (N)
 17 GREEN BAY (N)
 24 NEW YORK JETS (N)
 30 At Pittsburgh (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8 PHILADELPHIA	28-27
	15 At Green Bay	—
	22 ST. LOUIS	16-10
	29 At Philadelphia	10-24
October	6 DALLAS (N)	28-7
	13 At Cincinnati	—
	20 WASHINGTON	37-13
	27 At New Orleans	3-10
November	3 TAMPA BAY	17-14
	10 LOS ANGELES RAMS	12-33
	18 At Washington (N)	14-30
	24 At St. Louis	21-31
December	1 CLEVELAND	—
	8 At Houston	21-11
	15 At Dallas	19-7
	21 PITTSBURGH	—

NEW YORK GIANTS

The New York Giants not only played well enough in 1984 to raise hopes for 1985, they played well enough to raise ticket prices by \$3 apiece. The scale of \$14 and \$17 will still rank from the middle to lower half of ticket prices in the NFL, the Giants hastened to add. Of course, they expect to be worth much more than that.

The Giants expect so much, in fact, that they are extra careful about dwelling on their impressive 9-7 record of 1984, a turnaround from 3-12-1 of 1983. They are too young to remember firsthand, but former Giant teams have experienced winning seasons, too. There have been four others since 1963 but none consecutive. An occasional, isolated winning season is not what these Giants have in mind.

The Giants finished second in a tough division and beat the Rams in the NFC wild-card

game. Then they got closer to the world championship 49ers in the NFC semifinal than either the Bears got in the title game or the Dolphins got in the Super Bowl. Still, coach Bill Parcells couldn't be lured into a positive reflective mood.

"You don't get a medal for playing well," Parcells said. "You only get medals for winning. Our goal was to get to the Super Bowl. I'm not happy just because we got to the playoffs. We are all disappointed, but we're going to work our butts off and then get back here."

Mentioning the Super Bowl and the Giants in the same sentence a year ago would have been cause for a different kind of commitment than Parcells is talking about in 1985. But the Giants got instant help from a supposedly weak 1984 draft. If they can come close to matching that improvement this year, they could quickly become the team to beat in a division full of contenders.

The key this year is the same that helped unlock the door last year: the health of quarterback Phil Simms. In his seventh year now, Simms finally demonstrated an ability to shake off the physical abuse encountered routinely by nearly all quarterbacks. He became only the eighth quarterback in league history to surpass 4,000 yards passing in a season. There is no quarterback controversy in the Giants' part of New York. Simms's passer rating of 78.1 placed in the middle of the pack, indicating plenty of room for statistical improvement. Cutting down on interceptions would be a logical first step in this process, but the added experience of young receivers and blockers plus the addition of new runners could make Simms's progress automatic. Jeff Rutledge and Jeff Hostetler provide capable backup help, but between them they attempted one pass in 1984.

The Giants ended up starting two rookies at wide receiver in Lionel Manuel and Bobby Johnson. Manuel was subbing on occasion for veteran Earnest Gray, who was hampered by a hand problem that finally forced him onto injured reserve. Johnson was the surprise rookie of the season, a free agent who started every game and led the club with 48 catches for 795 yards and seven touchdowns. No. 2 draft choice Stacy Robinson will add great speed. The continued development of Zeke Mowatt as a complete tight end is another factor in the Giants' climb up the offensive ladder. Mowatt, like Johnson a former free agent (1983), tied Johnson in number of receptions, with 48, six for touchdowns. Mowatt made the club as a blocker, so his receiving ability is a welcome plus. "Nobody makes the big play more often," said Simms.

Running the ball is an area that requires major improvement if the Giants want to take the next step. Rob Carpenter was the club's leading rusher last year, with a meager 3.2-yard average. He will be pushed this year by Maurice Carthon, an addition from the New Jersey Generals who was a 1,000-yard rusher in the USFL. The real key is the development of No. 1 draft choice George Adams, who will challenge Joe Morris for a starting spot.

Youth served in the offensive line, where tackles Bill Roberts and Karl Nelson came through in their first seasons and allowed Parcells the luxury of beefing up inside. Roberts started at left tackle until sidelined by an injury for a while and former tackle Brad Benson moved to guard. Ex-guard Kelvin Belcher

moved to center and showed good potential. When guard Billy Ard was hurt, Chris Godfrey started. Two other rookies, Conrad Goode and David Jordan, provide depth. Nelson was a 1983 draft choice who was injured until last season. At 6-6, 285, he is exactly the kind of player Parcells wants up front.

The Giants have bragged about their defense even in bad years. Last year, they showed they are not standing pat by playing four first-year men; linebackers Carl Banks and Gary Reasons and cornerbacks Kenny Daniel and Perry Williams. Up front, they got all-pro play from nose tackle Jim Burt, who failed to get all-pro recognition. Ends Curtis McGriff, Leonard Marshall, Casey Merrill, and George Martin create pressure and backup

nose tackle Jerome Sall provides insurance.

At linebacker, the Giants continue to field an embarrassment of riches. Byron Hunt, No. 1 draftee Banks, and Andy Headen started six games apiece in the Giants' 18-game season. Fourth-round draft choice Reasons started beside veteran captain Harry Carson inside and proved as impressive as Banks. Lawrence Taylor is Lawrence Taylor on the right side, giving the Giants the equivalent of a twelfth man on the field as both pass rusher and defender. The incomparable Taylor merely led the club in tackles, with 114; sacks, with 11½; and forced fumbles, with six. He is working on his interceptions.

In the backfield, the Giants are looking forward to the return of all-star cornerback Mark Haynes, whose knee injury against the Cardinals in the fifteenth week of the season turned around the game immediately and ultimately may have cost the Giants a division title. To add depth, Clemson's Tyrone Davis was drafted in the third round. In Haynes's place last year, the Giants played former USFLer Kenny Daniel. Opposite Haynes on the right

side, 1983 seventh-rounder Perry Williams enjoyed his first season in 1984 by starting every game. At safety, the Giants are solid with strongside veteran Bill Currier and former No. 1 draft pick Terry Kinard at free safety.

New York's special teams were the biggest disappointment of 1984. They finished last in both net punting average and field-goal percentage, both unsettling statistics. The Giants thought place-kicker Ali Haji-Sheikh and punter Dave Jennings would keep them worry-free in these areas for a while. Return men Pete Shaw, Lionel Manuel, and Frank Cephus also finished near the bottom of the heap. Former Naval officer Phil McConkey could help if he shakes injury. The Giants didn't cover kicks so well, either.



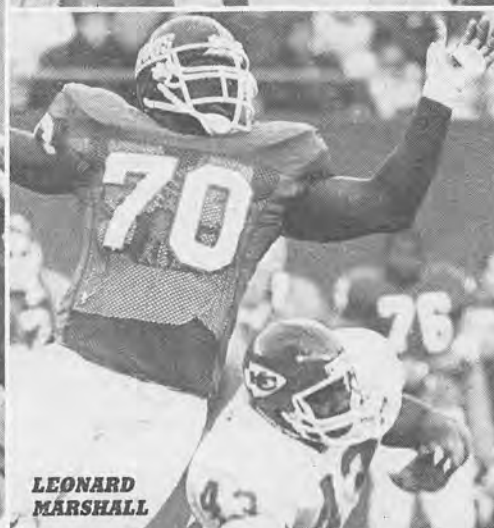
PHIL SIMMS



ROB CARPENTER



HARRY CARSON



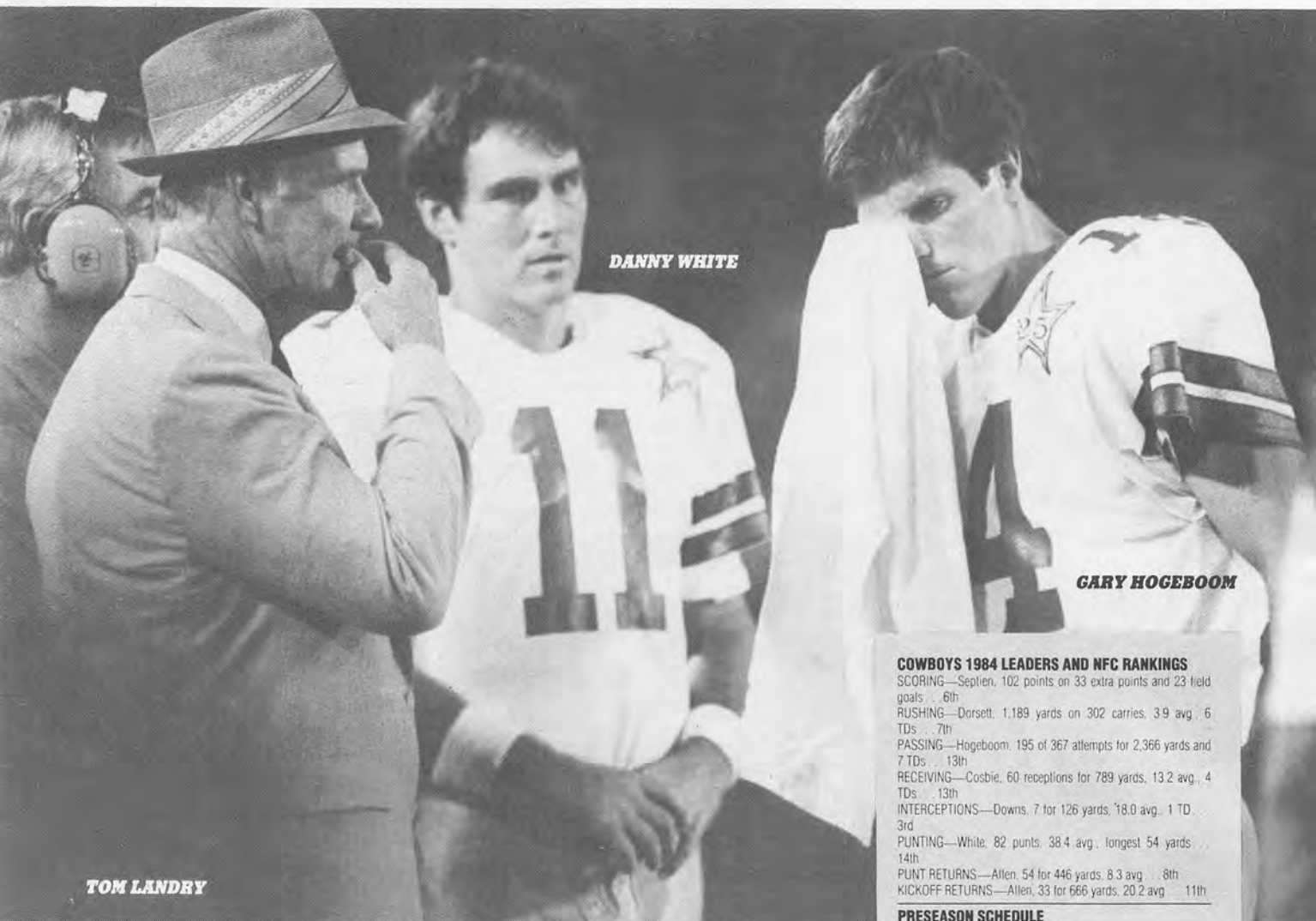
LEONARD MARSHALL

GIANTS VETERAN ROSTER

no	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	NFL college
67	Ard, Bill	G	6-3	270	26	5	Wake Forest
58	Banks, Carl	LB	6-4	235	23	2	Texas El Paso
73	Belcher, Kevin	G	6-3	276	24	3	Texas-El Paso
60	Benson, Brad	T	6-3	270	30	8	Penn State
64	Burt, Jim	NT	6-1	260	26	5	Miami
26	Carpenter, Rob	RB	6-1	226	30	9	Miami (OH)
53	Carson, Harry	LB	6-2	240	32	10	S.C. State
31	Cephus, Frank	RB	5-10	205	24	2	UCLA
29	Currier, Bill	S	6-0	195	30	9	South Carolina
24	Daniel, Kenny	CB	5-10	180	25	2	San Jose St.
37	Flowers, Larry	S	6-1	195	27	5	Texas Tech
30	Galbreath, Tony	RB	6-0	228	31	10	Missouri
61	Godfrey, Chris	G	6-3	265	27	3	Michigan
62	Goode, Conrad	T	6-6	285	23	2	Missouri
83	Gray, Earnest	WR	6-3	191	28	7	Memphis St.
92	Green, Lawrence	LB	6-2	230	23	2	UT-Chattanooga
6	Haji-Sheikh, Ali	PK	6-0	170	24	3	Michigan
79	Hardison, Dee	DE	6-4	274	29	8	North Carolina
	Harris, Clint	S	6-0	200	23	2	East Carolina
36	Haynes, Mark	CB	5-11	195	27	6	Colorado
54	Headen, Andy	LB	6-5	242	25	3	Clemson
48	Hill, Kenny	S	6-0	195	27	5	Yale
15	Hostetler, Jeff	QB	6-3	212	24	2	West Virginia
57	Hunt, Byron	LB	6-5	242	27	5	SMU
13	Jennings, Dave	P	6-4	200	33	12	St. Lawrence
88	Johnson, Bob	WR	5-11	171	24	2	Kansas
51	Jones, Robbie	LB	6-2	230	26	2	Alabama
69	Jordan, David	G	6-6	276	23	2	Auburn
43	Kinard, Terry	S	6-1	200	26	3	Clemson
72	King, Gordon	T	6-6	275	29	8	Stanford
90	Magwood, Frank	WR	6-0	188	24	2	Clemson
86	Manuel, Lionel	WR	5-11	175	23	2	Pacific
70	Marshall, Leonard	DE	6-3	285	24	3	LSU
75	Martin, George	DE	6-4	255	32	11	Oregon
80	McConkey, Phil	WR	5-10	170	28	2	Navy
46	McDaniel, Le Charles	CB	5-9	169	27	5	Cal Poly SLO
76	McGriff, Curtis	DE	6-5	276	27	6	Alabama
52	McLaughlin, Joe	LB	6-1	235	28	7	Massachusetts
71	Merrill, Casey	DE	6-4	260	28	7	Cal Davis
20	Morris, Joe	RB	5-7	195	25	4	Syracuse
84	Mowatt, Zeke	TE	6-3	240	24	3	Florida St.
81	Mullady, Tom	TE	6-3	235	28	7	Rhodes College
63	Nelson, Karl	T	6-6	285	25	2	Iowa State
34	Patterson, Elvis	DB	5-11	188	25	2	Kansas
55	Reasons, Gary	LB	6-4	234	23	2	NW Louisiana
66	Roberts, Bill	T	6-5	280	23	2	Ohio State
17	Rutledge, Jeff	QB	6-1	195	28	7	Alabama
78	Sally, Jerome	NT	6-3	270	26	4	Missouri
44	Shaw, Pete	S	5-10	183	31	9	Northwestern
11	Simms, Phil	QB	6-3	214	29	7	Morehead St.
56	Taylor, Lawrence	LB	6-3	243	26	5	North Carolina
38	Tuggle, John	RB	6-1	210	24	3	California
59	Umphrey, Rich	C	6-3	270	27	4	Colorado
87	Williams, Byron	WR	6-2	183	25	3	Texas Arlington
23	Williams, Perry	CB	6-2	203	24	2	N.C. St.

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Adams, George	RB	6-1	225	Kentucky
2	Robinson, Stacy	WR	5-10	180	North Dakota St.
3	Davis, Tyrone	DB	5-11	185	Clemson
3	Johnston, Brian	C	6-3	279	North Carolina
4	Bavaro, Mark	TE	6-3	240	Notre Dame
5	Henderson, Tracy	WR	5-11	185	Iowa St.
6	Oliver, Jack	G	6-3	280	Memphis St.
6	Pembroke, Mark	DB	6-0	189	Cal Fullerton
8	Rouson, Lee	RB	6-2	201	Colorado
9	Wright, Frank	NT	6-3	258	South Carolina
10	Dubroc, Gregg	LB	6-3	239	LSU
11	Young, Allen	DB	6-0	194	Virginia Tech
12	Welch, Herb	DB	5-11	175	UCLA



TOM LANDRY

DANNY WHITE

GARY HOGEBOOM

DALLAS COWBOYS

The Dallas Cowboys bottomed out last year with a 9-7 record that would make the New Orleans Saints envious. The Cowboys were embarrassed because they didn't even make the playoffs. But before you write them off for 1985, consider this reminder from a recent Cowboy publicity release:

"A year ago, the Cowboys were 12-4, in the playoffs, and in turmoil. In 1984, the Cowboys dropped to 9-7 and missed the playoffs for the first time in a decade, but they also feel better about themselves than they have in years."

Why is this true? Coach Tom Landry said his team went through an attitude adjustment last year that will pay big dividends in 1985. "We're going to be much better from a team unity standpoint than we've been in a number of years," said Landry.

Losing means winning? What Landry noticed was how his team reacted to losing. After losing, 14-3, to the previously winless Buffalo Bills last November 18, running back Tony Dorsett called his team "the laughing-stock of the NFL." It turned out that Landry wore a smile of his own. The Cowboys bounced back to win their next two games and barely lose their final two.

"Any time you have a team that reaches a low point, either you have sufficient character to pull out of those bottoms, or you don't. If you

have character, which we proved we did, then you finish with a winning record, and that's extremely important," said Landry.

Questioning the character of the Cowboys has been a popular pastime among Cowboy friends and foes alike. It was sometimes as popular as questioning the quarterback. The Cowboys still have "A Quarterback Situation" in 1985, but somehow it doesn't seem to be quite "The Quarterback Problem" it was in 1984. By losing his job to Gary Hogeboom at the start of last season, Danny White might have won friends. He proved that he alone certainly hasn't prevented the Cowboys from getting to the Super Bowl recently. In Dallas, you can have Drew Pearson, Billy DuPree, Harvey Martin, Pat Donovan, and Robert Newhouse all retire at once, but it's still the quarterback's fault. Not only did the Cowboys have to overcome all those exits last year, they lost their best offensive tackle, Jim Cooper, in a dance floor accident before the season. After White reclaimed his job in the second half of the year, Landry noticed a change.

"The great thing about football is having confidence in the people around you. When you go into a game and you know that you can count on the guy to your left and right, it's great. We now have that. We didn't have that the last couple of years," said Landry.

Landry says White is his No. 1 man, but

COWBOYS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Septien, 102 points on 33 extra points and 23 field goals . 6th
RUSHING—Dorsett, 1,189 yards on 302 carries, 3.9 avg, 6 TDs . 7th
PASSING—Hogeboom, 195 of 367 attempts for 2,366 yards and 7 TDs . 13th
RECEIVING—Cosbie, 60 receptions for 789 yards, 13.2 avg, 4 TDs . 13th
INTERCEPTIONS—Downs, 7 for 126 yards, 18.0 avg, 1 TD . 3rd
PUNTING—White, 82 punts, 38.4 avg., longest 54 yards . 14th
PUNT RETURNS—Allen, 54 for 446 yards, 8.3 avg . 8th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Allen, 33 for 666 yards, 20.2 avg . 11th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 GREEN BAY (N)
17 At San Diego (N)
26 CHICAGO (N)
31 HOUSTON (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

1985 SCHEDULE	1984 SCORES
September 9 WASHINGTON (N)	28-30
15 At Detroit	—
22 CLEVELAND	—
29 At Houston	—
October 6 At New York Giants (N)	7-28
13 PITTSBURGH	—
20 At Philadelphia	26-10
27 ATLANTA	—
November 4 At St. Louis (N)	24-27
10 At Washington	14-34
17 CHICAGO	23-14
24 PHILADELPHIA	23-17
28 ST. LOUIS	20-31
December 8 At Cincinnati	—
15 NEW YORK GIANTS	7-19
22 At San Francisco	—

stops far short of saying he is his No. 1 and only. "We have three good quarterbacks in White, Hogeboom, and Steve Pelluer, as good a group as anybody's, I think," said the coach. How long will it take the faithful to start chanting for Pelluer? Landry liked the way White overcame a tough, mental situation. "He still wasn't where he wanted to be, but at least he gained the confidence of the team and everybody felt like he could win for them," said Landry. He also said Hogeboom "performed pretty well. He didn't produce the touchdowns and big plays we need at that position."

All the quarterbacks hope they have more

productive targets. The Cowboys have to pass in order for Dorsett and the ground game to be effective. To pass well, they have to catch well. Receiving is the team's No. 1 problem. Doug Donley's chronically bad shoulder forced him off the team only one year after he tried to replace future Hall of Famer Drew Pearson. Tony Hill's season was interrupted by a shoulder injury. Mike Renfro played well after coming from Houston, but he is not a game-breaker. At tight end, Doug Cosbie is a Pro Bowl performer, but the Cowboys need more help on the receiving end if they hope to improve on their fourth-place finish.

"Our running game is basically something that takes place as the passing game works. We are not a team that dominates on the ground—never have been—without a good passing game," said Landry. A lot of teams could dominate with Dorsett, who enjoys 1,000-yard seasons without getting worn down physically. Now starting his ninth year, he needs only 475 yards to become the sixth player to rush for 10,000 yards. Dorsett also has become a mature team leader. Landry hopes he has landed a backup in fourth-round choice Robert Lavette of Georgia Tech. Timmy Newsome will get the starting fullback job beside Dorsett, with Ron Springs, Chuck McSwain, James Jones, Gary Allen, and Norm Granger all vying for reserve roles.

Landry thought his offensive line performed well last year considering all the injuries. Besides Cooper, every other starter missed time. In one game, the Cowboys started five guards. One of them, Herb Scott, has indicated he will retire, leaving the guard spots to Glen Titensor and Kurt Petersen. Landry says former No. 1 draft choice Howard Richards probably will join them permanently and not fool around at tackle anymore. Tom Rafferty is a solid center and Cooper and Phil Pozderac should start at the tackle spots, backed by Brian Baldinger and John Hunt.

If the offense can score, the defense is good enough for the Cowboys to win big again. The main reason is a front four that remains solid as long as Randy White is healthy. There simply is not a better defensive football player in captivity. He plays right tackle, which seems too confining a description for what he actually does. Jim Jeffcoat quickly proved that Harvey Martin had played too long at right end. Jeffcoat's 11½ sacks trailed White by one. Ed Jones is still "Too Tall" and too tough against the run at left end. John Dutton is the left tackle unless Don Smerek decides it's time for him to make a move. No. 1 pick Kevin Brooks of Michigan

might have a hard time cracking the lineup.

The Cowboys will lose Bob Breunig at middle linebacker but feel comfortable with Eugene Lockhart and Steve DeOssie. Lockhart has a knack for finding ball-carriers that endears him to Landry. Outside linebacker is a problem, especially after the loss of last year's No. 1 draft choice, Billy Cannon Jr., to a chronic neck injury. Landry expects Jeff Rohrer to win the right spot and Mike Hegman to remain solid on the left side. Dallas made Virginia Tech's Jesse Penn its No. 2 pick.

The secondary is as solid as it has been in years, with Everson Walls and Ron Fellows at the starting cornerback and Victor Scott a capable backup who might get some time at safety. Dexter Clinkscale and Michael Downs provide excellent play at the safety spots, backed by Bill Bates and Dennis Thurman.

In the special-teams area, the Cowboys are as consistent as ever. "We need to get a punter, said Landry. "We're putting undue pressure on White to continue the punting." Every year, the Cowboys want to replace White as a punter, and every year he ends up punting. Rafael Septien is an excellent place-kicker. Landry wants someone to help Gary Allen return punts and kickoffs. Bill Bates hardly needs any help covering them.

COWBOYS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	college
36	Albritton, Vince	S	6-2	209	23	2	Washington
31	Allen, Gary	RB	5-10	179	25	4	Hawaii
76	Aughtman, Dowe	G	6-3	258	24	2	Auburn
62	Baldinger, Brian	T	6-4	258	26	4	Duke
40	Bates, Bill	S	6-1	201	24	3	Tennessee
52	Cannon, Billy	LB	6-4	223	24	2	Texas A&M
47	Clinkscale, Dexter	S	5-11	189	27	5	S.C. St.
61	Cooper, Jim	T	6-5	267	30	9	Temple
85	Cornwell, Fred	TE	6-6	237	24	2	Southern Cal
84	Cosbie, Doug	TE	6-6	235	29	7	Santa Clara
55	DeOssie, Steve	LB	6-2	248	23	2	Boston College
51	Dickerson, Anthony	LB	6-2	222	28	6	SMU
83	Donley, Doug	WR	6-0	175	26	5	Ohio St.
33	Dorsett, Tony	RB	5-11	185	31	9	Pittsburgh
26	Downs, Michael	S	6-3	195	26	5	Rice
78	Dutton, John	DT	6-7	267	34	12	Nebraska
27	Fellows, Ron	CB	6-0	174	27	5	Missouri
28	Granger, Norm	RB	5-9	220	24	2	Iowa
86	Harris, Duriel	WR	5-11	176	31	10	New Mexico St.
58	Hegman, Mike	LB	6-1	231	32	10	Tennessee St.
15	Hewko, Bob	QB	6-3	195	25	2	Florida
80	Hill, Tony	WR	6-2	198	29	9	Stanford
14	Hogeboom, Gary	QB	6-4	200	27	6	Cent. Michigan
97	Hopkins, Thomas	T	6-6	260	25	2	Alabama A&M
21	Howard, Carl	CB	6-2	188	24	2	Rutgers
79	Hunt, John	G	6-4	253	23	2	Florida
77	Jeffcoat, Jim	DE	6-5	257	24	3	Arizona St.
72	Jones, Ed	DE	6-9	287	34	11	Tennessee St.
23	Jones, James	RB	5-10	189	27	5	Miss. St.
73	Kitson, Syd	G	6-4	262	27	5	Wake Forest
56	Lockhart, Eugene	LB	6-2	233	24	2	Houston
35	McSwain, Chuck	RB	6-0	190	24	3	Clemson
30	Newsome, Timmy	RB	6-1	232	27	6	Winston-Salem
16	Pelluer, Steve	QB	6-4	210	23	2	Washington
65	Petersen, Kurt	G	6-4	267	28	6	Missouri
81	Phillips, Kirk	WR	6-1	202	25	2	Tulsa
75	Pozderac, Phil	T	6-9	276	26	4	Notre Dame
64	Rafferty, Tom	C	6-3	254	31	10	Penn State
82	Renfro, Mike	WR	6-0	188	30	8	TCU
70	Richards, Howard	G	6-6	260	26	5	Missouri
50	Rohrer, Jeff	LB	6-3	225	27	4	Yale
89	Salonen, Brian	TE	6-2	227	24	2	Montana
66	Schultz, Chris	T	6-8	265	25	2	Arizona
22	Scott, Victor	CB	5-11	196	23	2	Colorado
1	Septien, Rafael	K	5-10	180	32	9	SW Louisiana
60	Smerek, Don	DT	6-7	255	28	5	Nevada-Reno
20	Springs, Ron	RB	6-1	224	29	7	Ohio St.
32	Thurman, Dennis	S	5-11	175	29	8	Southern Cal
63	Titensor, Glen	G	6-4	264	27	5	BYU
71	Tuinei, Mark	DT	6-5	274	25	3	Hawaii
57	Turner, Jimmie	LB	6-2	220	23	2	Presbyterian
24	Walls, Everson	CB	6-1	190	26	5	Grambling
5	Warren, John	P	6-0	207	25	3	Tennessee
11	White, Danny	QB	6-2	197	33	10	Arizona St.
54	White, Randy	DT	6-4	260	32	11	Maryland

DRAFTEES

rd.	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Brooks, Kevin	DE	6-7	262	Michigan
2	Penn, Jesse	LB	6-2	222	Virginia Tech
3	Kor, Crawford	OG	6-4	293	Florida
4	Lavette, Robert	RB	5-11	192	Georgia Tech
5	Walker, Herschel	RB	6-1	224	Georgia
5	Darwin, Matt	C	6-4	260	Texas A&M
6	Ploeger, Kurt	DE	6-5	265	Gustavus Adolphus
6	Moran, Matt	OG	6-4	265	Stanford
7	Powe, Karl	WR	6-2	177	Alabama St.
7	Herrmann, Jim	DE	6-5	255	BYU
8	Gonzales, Leon	WR	5-10	158	Bethune-Cookman
9	Strasburger, Scott	LB	6-2	204	Nebraska
10	Jones, Joe	TE	6-4	247	Virginia Tech
11	Dellocono, Neal	LB	6-0	219	UCLA
12	Jordan, Karl	LB	6-1	244	Vanderbilt



PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

The Philadelphia Eagles were sold during the offseason by trucker Leonard Tose to auto dealer Norman Braman, which unfortunately won't put them any closer to the driver's seat on the tough NFC East expressway. Would you buy a used team from these men? The Eagles improved from a bad 5-11 model in 1983 to a slightly better 6-9-1 edition in 1984. Still, they trailed the Redskins, Giants, Cardinals, and Cowboys on the road to the top. Prospects for moving into the passing lane in 1985 probably would depend on an unforeseen stall by others.

This is a club that played hard for coach Marion Campbell and refused to go into the tank after a 1-4 start. Yet they are a club that is still counting on a 34-year-old quarterback, Ron Jaworski, who is coming off a broken leg. Under Campbell, a defense that once was good enough to get to a Super Bowl was revitalized behind an excellent pass rush and reckless safeties Wes Hopkins and Ray Ellis, perhaps the most feared tandem in football. Yet the Eagles didn't stop the run very well and on offense they couldn't run a lick. Even in an age of fancy passing, a team that can't run nor stop the run is facing a combination of problems bound to doom.

Campbell is well aware of both inadequacies. Halfback Wilbert Montgomery, still effective at age 31, needs help from sidekicks as well as blockers. The offensive line gave up an unacceptable 60 sacks, many of them because defenses stopped the Eagles' running attack and teed off on the passers. Whether run blocking or pass blocking comes first, the Eagles know both need major repairs.

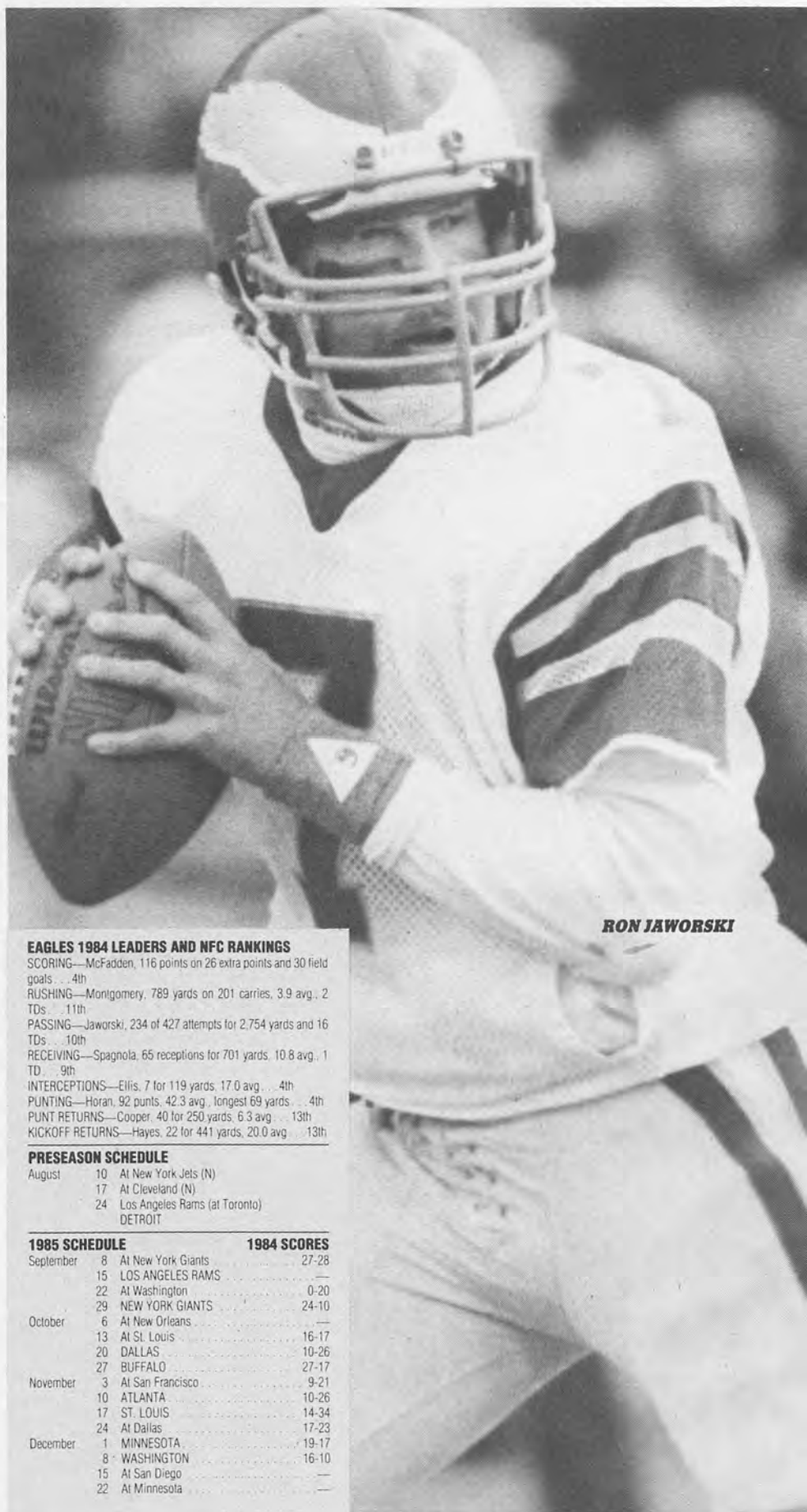
Potentially, Jaworski could have control of an explosive passing attack featuring wide receivers Mike Quick and Kenny Jackson, tight end John Spagnola, and the versatile Montgomery. But such skill players are only expensive hood ornaments, luxury options that will seem worthless if the Eagles can't provide a better chassis and frame.

Most of the adversity was self-inflicted, resulting from the 1-4 start. During that time, the defense ranked 27th in the league and had caused just three turnovers. But by the end of the year, the swarming intensity had returned. The Eagles intercepted 20 passes, compared with a league-low eight in 1983. Hopkins and Ellis were responsible for 12 of the 20. The defense ranked twelfth in the league by the end and Campbell described it in terms his owners could easily understand. "Defensively, we got our motor running again," he said.

In 1985, the offense must shift out of low. Jaworski's broken leg ended what is believed to be the longest playing streak for a quarterback in NFL history: 116 straight games. The injury occurred in the thirteenth week of the season against St. Louis, giving veteran backup Joe Pisarcik a rare chance to exercise. A complete recovery is expected for Jaworski, who enjoys the full confidence of Campbell.

"I'm not worried about the rehabilitation," said Campbell. "He'll find a way to get it done; he always has. Ron will still have his mobility, and I think he has enough of it to do the job. Besides, he's basically always been a pocket passer and so are 90 percent of the quarterbacks today."

Before he went down, Jaworski was doing what Campbell called a "good job spreading the ball around, utilizing all the receivers."



RON JAWORSKI

EAGLES 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—McFadden, 116 points on 26 extra points and 30 field goals . . . 4th
RUSHING—Montgomery, 789 yards on 201 carries, 3.9 avg. . . 2 TDs . . . 11th
PASSING—Jaworski, 234 of 427 attempts for 2,754 yards and 16 TDs . . . 10th
RECEIVING—Spagnola, 65 receptions for 701 yards, 10.8 avg. . . 1 TD . . . 9th
INTERCEPTIONS—Ellis, 7 for 119 yards, 17.0 avg. . . 4th
PUNTING—Horan, 92 punts, 42.3 avg., longest 69 yards . . . 4th
PUNT RETURNS—Cooper, 40 for 250 yards, 6.3 avg. . . 13th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Hayes, 22 for 441 yards, 20.0 avg. . . 13th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 At New York Jets (N)
17 At Cleveland (N)
24 Los Angeles Rams (at Toronto)
DETROIT

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8 At New York Giants	27-28
	15 LOS ANGELES RAMS	—
	22 At Washington	0-20
	29 NEW YORK GIANTS	24-10
October	6 At New Orleans	—
	13 At St. Louis	16-17
	20 DALLAS	10-26
	27 BUFFALO	27-17
November	3 At San Francisco	9-21
	10 ATLANTA	10-26
	17 ST. LOUIS	14-34
	24 At Dallas	17-23
December	1 MINNESOTA	19-17
	8 WASHINGTON	16-10
	15 At San Diego	—
	22 At Minnesota	—

That he was able to help fashion the eleventh-ranked pass offense in the league is remarkable considering the Eagles' inept running. If opponents know Jaworski can't count on gaining a few yards by handing off once in a while, they will severely test his mobility again. Pizarcik, 33, proved he is adequate as a backup, but a look at the birthdates of both quarterbacks quickly focuses on a pressing issue for the Eagles. That is why they drafted Nevada-Las Vegas prospect Randall Cunningham in the second round to compete with young passers Dean May and Jeff Christensen.

Campbell thinks Montgomery can still run "if we can generate more holes." What convinced him was the way Wilbert ran when he caught passes with some space around him. Hubie Oliver is called "as good a blocking back as there is in the league" by the coach. Behind the two starters, however, the Eagles employ question marks. Michael Haddix averaged only 2.7 yards per carry, Michael Williams slumped after an impressive rookie year, and Andre Hardy got hurt. The Eagles will test the one-back offense in 1985.

The receiving corps is the Eagles' pride. Quick and Jackson both have exceptional ability after they catch the ball. Spagnola came off neck surgery to lead the conference tight ends in catches, with a club-high 65. Jackson missed five games because of a shoulder separation. Healthy, he can take a burden off Quick that has failed to keep him out of two straight Pro Bowls. "One of the premier players in the NFL today," said Campbell. Vyto Kab and Lawrence Sampleton provide better than average depth at tight end and Tony Woodruff and Melvin Hoover are steady backups at wide receiver.

Offensive improvement rests directly on the line, where Campbell added three draft choices in the first six rounds: Indiana tackle Kevin Allen, North Carolina guard Greg Naron, and Texas A&M guard Ken Reeves. Tackles Dean Miraldi and Leonard Mitchell now have one full year of starting experience

each, so they should be more consistent. Center Mark Dennard and steady guards Ron Baker and Steve Kenney provide a good core. Rusty Russell, Peter Perot, Dave Pacella, and Gerry Feehery provide depth.

The defensive line was one of the most effective in the league, contributing 48½ of the team-record 60 sacks. Ends Dennis Harrison and Greg Brown and nose tackle Ken Clarke combined for 38½ sacks—"more than any other trio in the league," said Campbell. "Those are big numbers, considering we don't blitz very often." End Byron Darby and nose tackle Harvey Armstrong also see action in the line.

Linebackers Jerry Robinson, Anthony Griggs, Joel Williams, and Reggie Wilkes all had good years in 1984, according to Campbell. But with the Eagles last in the league against the run, the linebackers need to get more active.

They all could follow the example of Hopkins and Ellis. "Frank and Jesse James," as

Robinson calls them. "Gangsters. Outlaws. They fly to the ball." Although it's safety first in the Eagle secondary, cornerbacks Roynell Young and Herman Edwards are capable performers and Elbert Foules will push for a starting spot after subbing for the injured Young last season. Brenard Wilson is an excellent backup at all four backfield positions.

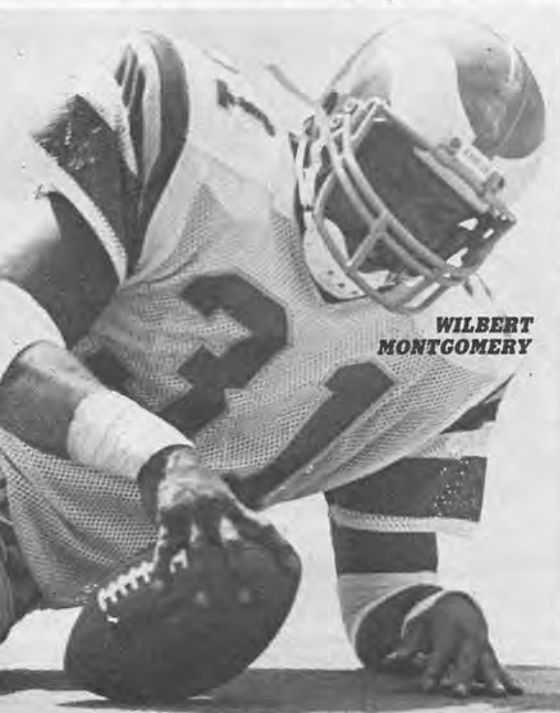
The Eagles boast the best special teams in the league. Paul McFadden led the NFL in field goals as a rookie and will be trying to avoid the sophomore slump that claimed the Giants' Ali Haji-Sheikh. Mike Horan, another first-year man, gave the Eagles their best punting in several years.

EAGLES VETERAN ROSTER

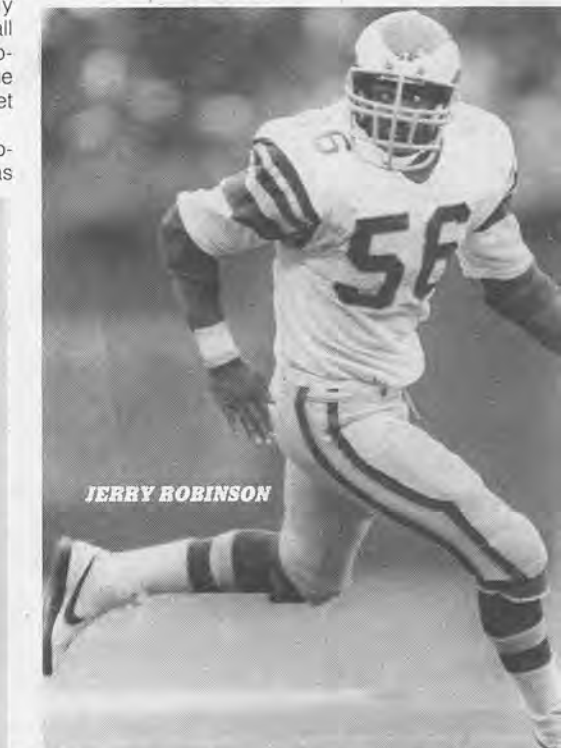
no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	college
96	Armstrong, Harvey	NT	6-2	265	26	3	SMU
63	Baker, Ron	G	6-4	270	31	8	Oklahoma St.
98	Brown, Greg	DE	6-5	260	28	5	Kansas St.
11	Christensen, Jeff	QB	6-3	200	25	2	E. Illinois
71	Clarke, Ken	NT	6-2	255	29	8	Syracuse
21	Cooper, Evan	DB	5-11	180	23	2	Michigan
94	Darby, Byron	DE	6-4	260	25	3	Southern Cal.
65	Dennard, Mark	C	6-1	252	30	7	Texas A&M
46	Edwards, Herman	CB	6-0	190	31	9	San Diego St.
24	Ellis, Ray	S	6-1	192	26	5	Ohio State
39	Everett, Major	FB	5-11	215	25	3	Mississippi Coll.
67	Feehery, Gerry	OL	6-2	268	25	3	Syracuse
29	Foules, Elbert	CB	5-11	185	24	3	Alcorn St.
86	Garrity, Gregg	WR	5-10	171	25	3	Penn St.
88	Griggs, Anthony	LB	6-3	230	25	4	Ohio St.
26	Haddix, Michael	FB	6-2	225	24	3	Mississippi St.
47	Hardy, Andre	RB	6-1	233	24	2	St. Mary's
68	Harrison, Dennis	DE	6-8	280	29	8	Vanderbilt
80	Hayes, Joe	WR	5-9	185	25	2	Central St.
85	Hoover, Melvin	WR	6-0	185	26	4	Arizona St.
48	Hopkins, Wes	FS	6-1	210	24	3	SMU
2	Horan, Michael	P	5-11	190	26	2	Long Beach St.
81	Jackson, Kenny	WR	6-0	180	23	2	Penn St.
7	Jaworski, Ron	QB	6-2	196	34	12	Youngstown St.
84	Kab, Vyto	TE	6-5	240	26	4	Penn St.
73	Kenney, Steve	G	6-4	270	30	6	Clemson
52	Kraynak, Rich	LB	6-1	225	25	3	Pittsburgh
5	May, Dean	QB	6-5	220	23	2	Louisville
8	McFadden, Paul	K	5-11	155	24	2	Youngstown St.
64	Miraldi, Dean	T	6-5	285	27	4	Utah
74	Mitchell, Leonard	T	6-7	285	27	5	Houston
31	Montgomery, Wilbert	RB	5-10	194	31	9	Abilene Christian
34	Oliver, Hubie	FB	5-10	212	28	5	Arizona
9	Pizarcik, Joe	QB	6-4	217	33	9	New Mexico St.
82	Quick, Mike	WR	6-2	190	26	4	N.C. St.
55	Reichenbach, Mike	LB	6-2	235	24	2	East Stroudsburg
56	Robinson, Jerry	LB	6-2	225	29	7	UCLA
79	Russell, Rusty	T	6-5	295	22	2	South Carolina
87	Sampleton, Lawrence	TE	6-5	233	26	4	Texas
53	Schultz, Jody	LB	6-4	235	25	3	East Carolina
88	Spagnola, John	TE	6-4	240	28	6	Yale
93	Strauthers, Tom	DE	6-4	265	24	3	Jackson St.
20	Waters, Andre	CB	5-11	182	23	2	Cheyney
51	Wilkes, Reggie	LB	6-4	235	29	8	Georgia Tech
59	Williams, Joel	LB	6-1	225	29	7	Wis-LaCrosse
32	Williams, Michael	RB	6-2	225	24	3	Mississippi Coll.
22	Wilson, Brenard	DB	6-0	180	30	7	Vanderbilt
83	Woodruff, Tony	WR	6-0	185	27	4	Fresno St.
43	Young, Roynell	CB	6-1	181	28	6	Alcorn St.

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Allen, Kevin	OT	6-5	285	Indiana
2	Cunningham, Randall	QB	6-4	195	UNLV
4	Naron, Greg	G	6-4	270	North Carolina
5	Jiles, Dwayne	LB	6-4	240	Texas Tech
6	Reeves, Ken	OT	6-5	270	Texas A&M
8	Polley, Tom	LB	6-3	235	UNLV
9	Toub, Dave	C	6-3	278	Texas-El Paso
10	Drake, Joe	DT	6-2	295	Arizona
9	Kelso, Mark	DB	5-11	186	William & Mary
11	Hunter, Herman	RB	6-1	190	Tennessee St.
12	Russell, Todd	DB	6-1	190	Boston College



**WILBERT
MONTGOMERY**



JERRY ROBINSON



DENNIS HARRISON

NFC Central

CHICAGO BEARS

In the NFC Central Division, no team has repeated a championship since the Minnesota Vikings finished a string of six in 1978. In order to reverse this trend of occasional winners, the Chicago Bears reversed traditional thinking. They had the No. 1 defense in football in nearly every major category last year and attempted to strengthen it in the draft.

Despite starting five different quarterbacks last season and admitting an urgent need for better receivers, the Bears ignored their 26th-ranked pass offense and drafted defensive players in the first two rounds. Even their own players had a hard time understanding why. This was a team that set an NFL record for quarterback sacks last year. Half of its front four, Dan Hampton and Richard Dent, went to the Pro Bowl. Yet when it came time to draft, they surprised everyone by tabbing Clemson's gigantic tackle, William Perry. When they took him, he had shrunk from 370 to 318 pounds in three months. If he can stay hungry, the Bears think they can eat up the league. "We would rather play with William Perry than against him," said personnel director Bill Tobin. The Bears fantasize that Perry at his best can free Hampton and Dent to perform all manner of mayhem against opposing offenses. If Perry can occupy two blockers, the Bear offense may not have to worry about scoring.

Coach Mike Ditka hopes he no longer has to worry about quarterbacks. Injuries forced him to use his sixth quarterback, Walter Payton, who quickly demonstrated he is quite satisfied to be the all-time leading rusher. He scrambled a lot from the shotgun formation. The No. 1 man, Jim McMahon, is coming off a rare injury (a lacerated kidney) and will be padded more heavily than he would like. When

WALTER PAYTON

BEARS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Thomas, 101 points on 35 extra points and 22 field goals... 7th
RUSHING—Payton, 1,684 yards on 381 carries, 4.4 avg., 11 TDs... 2nd
PASSING—McMahon, 85 of 143 attempts for 1,146 yards and 8 TDs... unranked
RECEIVING—Payton, 45 receptions for 368 yards, 8.2 avg., 0 TDs... 26th
INTERCEPTIONS—Fencik, 5 for 102 yards, 20.4 avg... 11th
PUNTING—Finzer, 83 punts, 40.1 avg., longest 87 yards... 9th
PUNT RETURNS—Fisher, 57 for 492 yards, 8.6 avg... 6th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Cameron, 26 for 485 yards, 18.7 avg... 16th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 9 At St. Louis (N)
17 INDIANAPOLIS (N)
26 At Dallas (N)
31 BUFFALO (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September 8 TAMPA BAY 34-14
15 NEW ENGLAND
19 At Minnesota (N) 34-3
29 WASHINGTON
October 6 At Tampa Bay 44-9
13 At San Francisco
21 GREEN BAY (N) 14-20
27 MINNESOTA 16-7
November 3 At Green Bay 9-7
10 DETROIT 16-14
17 At Dallas 14-23
24 ATLANTA (N)
December 2 At Miami (N)
8 INDIANAPOLIS
14 At New York Jets
22 At Detroit 30-13

1984 SCORES

JIM McMAHON

healthy, McMahon is a resourceful leader who could end the Bears' worries about getting into the end zone. When McMahon was hurt, Steve Fuller proved a steal by guiding the Bears into the NFC title game. Fuller was hampered by two shoulder separations but again is ready for a backup role.

Payton is ready for his eleventh season. He is only 31 years old and remains a remarkable physical specimen. If he doesn't stay that way, of course, the Bears might resemble the Rams without Eric Dickerson. Besides running, Payton blocks and catches and inspires the whole team. Behind him, the Bears are lacking, but fullback Matt Suhey plays beside him and complements Payton's blocking and running well. Big back Calvin Thomas hopes he has corrected shoulder problems.

Receiving is the Bears' biggest question mark on offense. They have the speed in Willie Gault, but health and depth are concerns. Dennis McKinnon, who plays opposite Gault, developed into a primary target before injuring a knee. Like most people, McKinnon doesn't have the speed Gault has, but the Bears like him because he will go places that Gault won't to catch balls. Ken Margerum, coming off a serious knee injury, and third-round draft pick James Maness of TCU are supposed to light a fire under Gault. Tight end is another area of uncertainty. Ditka had five candidates for his old position, and he may suit up himself if he isn't satisfied. Emery Moorehead is the fastest and best receiver of the bunch, but Ditka wants a bigger blocker. Mitch Krenk will challenge and so will Jay Saldi, Pat Dunsmore, and Tim Wrightman.

Ditka won a gamble with a young, big, and strong offensive line last season. Continued development is expected from tackles Jimbo Covert and Keith Van Horne, guards Mark Bortz and Kurt Becker, and center Jay Hilgenberg. Payton called Covert the best tackle in football last season, and it is uncharacteristic of him to single out individuals. Bortz made a successful switch from defense. Depth remains untested except for veteran tackle

Andy Frederick. Tom Andrews and Stefan Humphries are in their second years.

The defensive line was hurting for depth, too, until the Bears amply filled it out with Perry. Defensive coordinator Buddy Ryan plans to put Perry at left tackle, where Steve McMichael was among the league leaders with 10 sacks last season. The Bears employ enough odd-man and five-man fronts to give everybody a chance to play. They claim that the addition of such an obvious nose tackle as Perry is no preview of a switch to the 3-4 alignment. Hampton and Dent form an all-pro right side and veteran Mike Hartenstine anchors left end. Tyrone Keys, Henry Waechter, and Dick Butkus's nephew, Mark, will fight for backup jobs with later draft choices Charles Bennett of Southwest Louisiana and Pat Cor-

yatt of Baylor. Hampton is coming off his third surgery on his right knee and probably won't play until the regular season.

At linebacker, the Bears boast three No. 1 draft choices plus the defensive player of the year in one poll, Mike Singletary. Left linebacker Otis Wilson deserved to join Singletary in the Pro Bowl and right linebacker Al Harris stayed ahead of last year's No. 1, Wilber Marshall, with outstanding play. Marshall is expected to see more action this year, but no one knows exactly where. Ron Rivera, last year's second-round pick, is a good backup coming off a season of nagging injuries.

The Bears exposed their lack of depth at cornerback in the NFC title game by lining up strong safety Todd Bell on the corner. To rectify the problem, they drafted little Reggie Phillips of SMU in hopes that his speed and cover ability will enable him to push starters Leslie Frazier and Mike Richardson. Frazier is coming off a foot injury and Richardson had an inconsistent season. If Bell signs a free-agent contract, he will continue to play the most versatile role in Ryan's multiple formations. Free safety Gary Fencik is a valuable team leader and Dave Duerson is ready to step in at either safety spot. Second-year cornerback Shaun Gayle is coming off a broken leg.

Ditka was disappointed with his special teams in general and vows to use regulars McKinnon and Gault to return punts and kickoffs. Coverage teams were better against punts than they were against kickoffs and fourth-round draft choice Kevin Butler could improve that with non-returnable kickoffs. The selection of Butler shocked incumbent kicker Bob Thomas, who is coming off his best year and has a string of 11 field goals in a row. Ditka said the better man will win the job. Punter Dave Finzer led the league in punts placed inside the 20, giving the No. 1 defense consistently good field position.

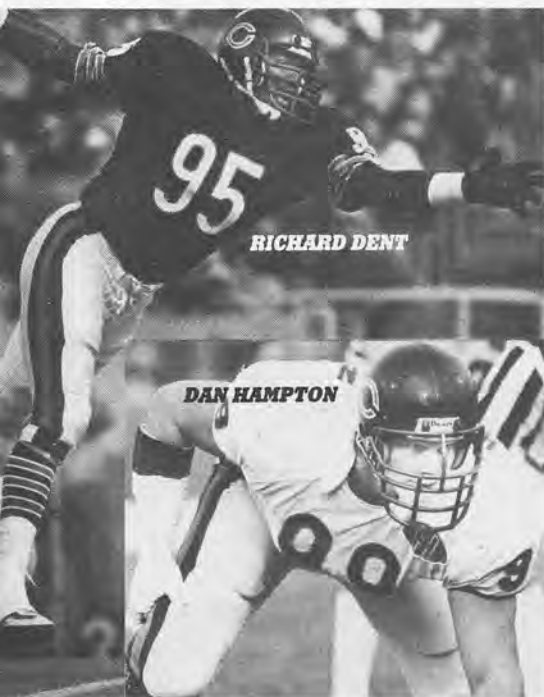
"The most important thing for this team to realize is that what you do one year has nothing to do with what you'll do the next year," said Ditka.

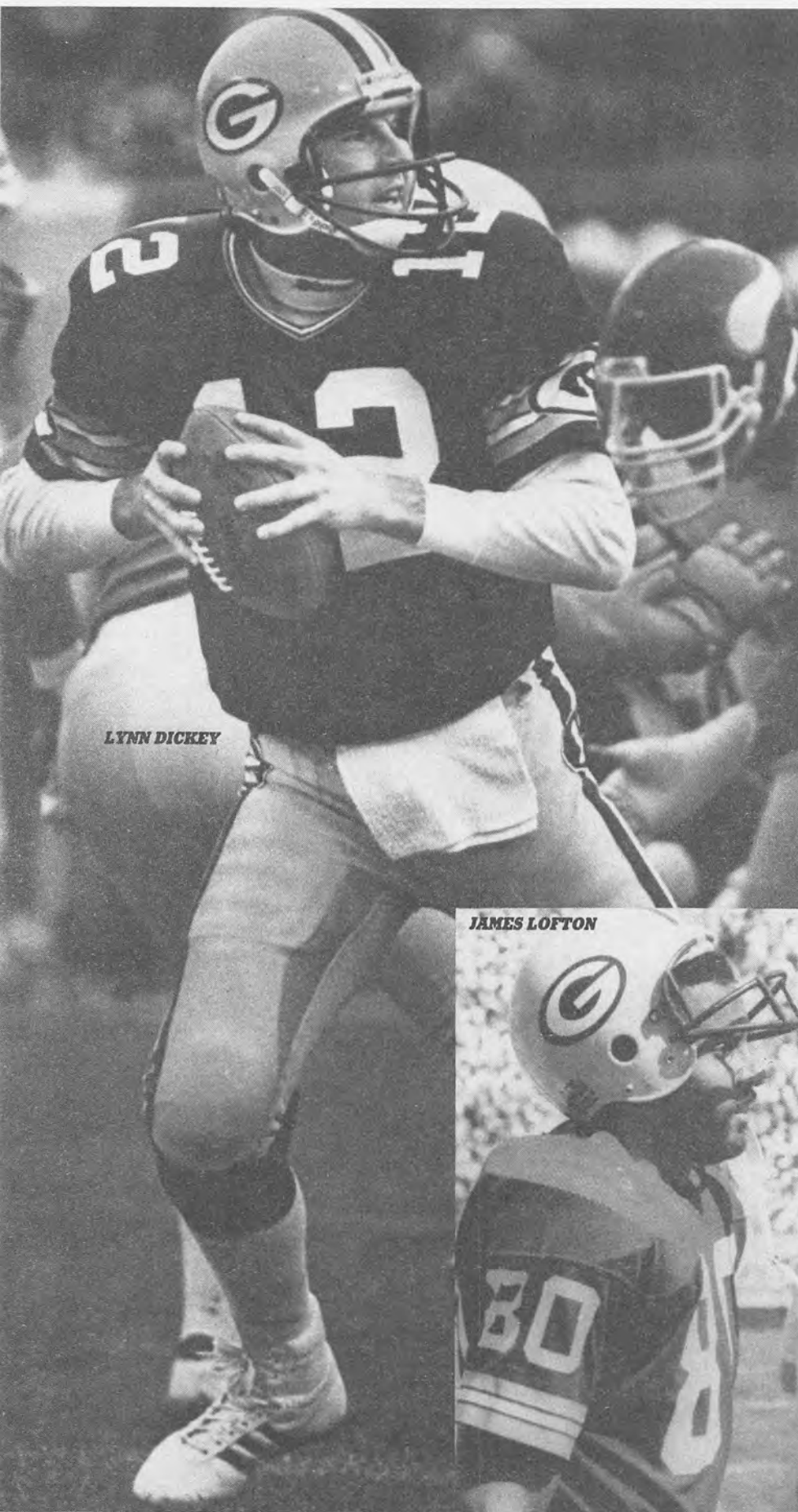
BEARS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	college	NFL
86	Anderson, Brad	WR	6-2	196	24	2	Arizona	
60	Andrews, Tom	C	6-4	261	23	2	Louisville	
84	Baschnagel, Brian	WR	5-11	185	31	10	Ohio St.	
79	Becker, Kurt	G	6-5	270	27	4	Michigan	
25	Bell, Todd	S	6-1	205	27	5	Ohio St.	
62	Bortz, Mark	C	6-6	271	24	3	Iowa	
97	Butkus, Mark	DT	6-4	260	24	1	Illinois	
54	Cabral, Brian	LB	6-1	227	29	7	Colorado	
30	Cameron, Jack	WR	6-0	182	24	2	Winston-Salem	
11	Christopher, John	P	6-3	205	25	1	Morehead St.	
74	Covert, Jim	T	6-4	283	25	3	Pittsburgh	
95	Dent, Richard	DE	6-5	253	25	3	Tenn State	
22	Duerson, Dave	S	6-1	205	25	3	Notre Dame	
88	Dunsmore, Pat	TE	6-3	237	26	3	Drake	
64	Fada, Rob	G	6-2	272	24	3	Pittsburgh	
45	Fencik, Gary	S	6-1	197	31	10	Yale	
15	Finzer, Dave	P	6-0	195	26	2	DePauw	
24	Fisher, Jeff	DB	5-10	195	27	5	USC	
21	Frazier, Leslie	CB	6-0	189	26	5	Alcorn St.	
71	Frederick, Andy	T	6-6	265	31	9	New Mexico	
4	Fuller, Steve	QB	6-4	195	28	7	Clemson	
83	Gault, Willie	WR	6-0	178	25	3	Tennessee	
23	Gayle, Shaun	CB	5-11	191	23	2	Ohio St.	
29	Gentry, Dennis	RB	5-8	184	26	4	Baylor	
99	Hampton, Dan	DT	6-5	266	28	7	Arkansas	
90	Harris, Al	LB	6-5	253	29	7	Arizona St.	
73	Hartenstine, Mike	DE	6-3	258	32	11	Penn State	
63	Hilgenberg, Jay	C	6-3	255	26	5	Iowa	
75	Humphries, Stefan	G	6-3	265	23	2	Michigan	
32	Hutchinson, Anthony	RB	5-10	186	24	3	Texas Tech	
49	Jordan, Donald	RB	6-0	210	23	2	Houston	
98	Keys, Tyrone	DE	6-7	267	26	3	Miss State	
89	Krenk, Mitch	TE	6-2	225	26	2	Nebraska	
12	Lisch, Rusty	QB	6-4	215	29	5	Notre Dame	
62	Margerum, Ken	WR	6-0	180	27	4	Stanford	
58	Marshall, Wilber	LB	6-1	225	23	2	Florida	
85	McKinnon, Dennis	WR	6-1	185	24	3	Florida St.	
9	McMahon, Jim	QB	6-1	185	26	4	BYU	
76	McMichael, Steve	DT	6-2	263	28	6	Texas	
87	Moorehead, Emery	TE	6-2	225	31	9	Colorado	
67	Norman, Tim	C	6-6	270	26	1	Illinois	
34	Payton, Walter	RB	5-10	202	31	11	Jackson St.	
36	Phillips, Reggie	DB	5-11	208	24	1	Iowa	
53	Rains, Dan	LB	6-1	222	29	4	Cincinnati	
27	Richardson, Mike	CB	6-0	188	24	3	Arizona St.	
59	Rivera, Ron	LB	6-3	244	23	2	California	
65	Rowell, Eugene	OL/DT	6-3	265	27	1	Dubuque	
81	Saldi, Jay	TE	6-3	227	31	10	S Carolina	
50	Singletary, Mike	LB	6-0	228	27	5	Baylor	
26	Suhey, Matt	RB	5-11	216	27	6	Penn State	
16	Thomas, Bob	K	5-10	177	33	10	Notre Dame	
33	Thomas, Calvin	RB	5-11	235	25	4	Illinois	
78	Van Horne, Keith	T	6-6	265	28	5	USC	
93	Vestman, Kurt	TE	6-3	232	25	1	Idaho	
70	Waechter, Henry	DT	6-5	270	26	3	Nebraska	
55	Wilson, Otis	LB	6-2	231	28	6	Louisville	
80	Wrightman, Tim	TE	6-3	233	25	2	UCLA	

DRAFTTEES

rd.	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Perry, William	DT	6-2	318	Clemson
2	Phillips, Reggie	DB	5-10	168	SMU
3	Maness, James	WR	6-1	174	TCU
4	Butler, Kevin	K	6-1	190	Georgia
7	Bennett, Charles	DE	6-5	250	SW Louisiana
8	Buxton, Steve	OT	6-6	271	Indiana St.
9	Sanders, Thomas	RB	5-11	195	Texas A&M
10	Coryatt, Pat	DT	6-2	287	Baylor
11	Morrissey, James	LB	6-2	207	Michigan St.





LYNN DICKEY

JAMES LOFTON

GREEN BAY PACKERS

Now that the Green Bay Packers have figured out how to play for Forrest Gregg, the rest of the NFC is properly concerned. Such respect for an 8-8 team is possible only when the 1984 results are examined half by half. The Packers were 1-7 during the first half of Gregg's first year and 7-1 during the stretch. The Packer publicists cite "optimism and euphoria, in equal parts" prevailing among Packers backers. They point out that only Super Bowl champion San Francisco had a better second half of the 1984 season and that was only because the 49ers were a perfect 8-0.

Perfection is something even the most loyal Packer is not ready to claim. And Gregg himself sounds like he is bracing himself for large doses of reality. "As far as I'm concerned, we have no laurels to rest on," said Gregg. "We were eight-and-eight last year. That's .500 ball, and that's not good enough."

Leave it to a coach to talk negatively. At least two of Gregg's foremost players, quarterback Lynn Dickey and tight end Paul Coffman, called the 1984 Packers the best team they had played on. "It was almost like we were playing a gentlemen's game before," said linebacker Mike Douglass. "Now we're playing a dog-eat-dog game."

What the Packers did under Gregg was improve their defense from a pathetic last in the league to a reasonable sixteenth. For that, defensive coordinator Dick Modzelewski gets plenty of credit after taking over when the respected Hank Bullough left. Once Gregg got the offense headed in a similar direction by midseason, the Packers missed a wild-card berth by one game. If they hope to improve on that, much of the burden again must be shouldered by the 35-year-old Dickey. Fortunately for Packer fans, Dickey seems practically immune to the ravages of age and injury that routinely pile up on him. Even when he's hurt, he plays. And when he plays, the Packers are hard to beat.

PACKERS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Del Greco, 61 points on 34 extra points and 9 field goals . . . 22nd
 RUSHING—Ellis, 581 yards on 123 carries, 4.7 avg. 4 TDs . . . 16th
 PASSING—Dickey, 237 of 401 attempts for 3,195 yards and 25 TDs . . . 5th
 RECEIVING—Lofton, 62 receptions for 1,361 yards, 22.0 avg. 7 TDs . . . 10th
 INTERCEPTIONS—Flynn, 9 for 106 yards, 11.8 avg. . . 1st
 PUNTING—Scribner, 85 punts, 42.3 avg., longest 61 yards 3rd
 PUNT RETURNS—Epps, 29 for 199 yards, 6.9 avg. . . 11th
 KICKOFF RETURNS—Rodgers, 39 for 843 yards, 21.6 avg. 1 TD . . . 6th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 At Dallas (N)
 17 At New York Giants (N)
 24 Atlanta (at Milwaukee, N)
 31 NEW YORK JETS (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

	1984 SCORES
September 8 At New England	—
15 NEW YORK GIANTS	—
22 New York Jets (Milw.)	—
29 At St. Louis	24-23
October 6 DETROIT	41-19
13 Minnesota (Milw.)	45-17
21 At Chicago (N)	20-14
27 At Indianapolis	—
November 3 CHICAGO	7-9
10 At Minnesota	38-14
17 New Orleans (Milw.)	23-13
24 At Los Angeles Rams	31-6
December 1 TAMPA BAY	27-14
8 MIAMI	—
15 At Detroit	28-31
22 At Tampa Bay	27-30

In an attempt to keep Dickey healthy, the Packers used their first draft choice on an offensive lineman. They thought so much of USC's Ken Ruettggers that they gave up their second-round pick to move higher in the first round to land him. Some observers think they could have landed quarterback Vince Ferragamo with a second-round pick as a different kind of protection for Dickey. In the third round, they added San Diego State guard Rich Moran. At quarterback, they added journeyman Scott Brunner to the roster to compete with Randy Wright.

Dickey's primary receiver, James Lofton, remains the prototype at his position. His 22-

yard average per catch put him ahead of everybody in the league. The speed of Phillip Epps opposite Lofton prevents teams from clamping down entirely on Lofton, but the Packers revealed a need for depth by drafting Walter Stanley in the fourth round. He hasn't played in college since 1981 and may help sooner as a kick returner than as a receiver. Ron Cassidy and Lenny Taylor are adequate backups. Coffman remains the best tight end in football in the opinion of many observers. Only Lofton catches more passes in Green Bay, but Coffman caught more for touchdowns, leading the club with nine. Texas A&M's Mark Lewis was drafted in the sixth round, but Coffman rarely needs help. Backup Ed West caught only seven passes, but five went for touchdowns.

The return of Eddie Lee Ivey at running back last year provided an unexpected gift for Gregg. His 552 yards rushing put him second to teammate Gerry Ellis's 581. Four other backs who contribute to a solid situation are Jessie Clark, Harlan Huckleby, Ray Crouse, and Del Rodgers. "This is probably one of our strong points right now," said Gregg.

The addition of Ruettggers and Moran is expected to beef up an area of concern. Moran played some center in college and could be considered at that position behind veteran Larry McCarren, who was injured last season. His replacement, Blake Moore, started the last four games. Another prospect is Mark Cannon, who was the long snapper as a rookie. Ruettggers is projected as either a tackle or a guard, but the Packers need more help at tackle. Huge Tim Huffman and Ron Hallstrom are entrenched in guard spots. Gregg wants to refrain from moving Huffman around. Hallstrom finally found a home and developed fast. At tackle, injury bothered Karl Swanke on the left side and Greg Koch on the right.

Improvement of the defense from last in the league in 1983 to sixteenth was cause for celebration, but there are question marks. The biggest is whether top pass rusher Ezra Johnson can return from his second back surgery in two years. Gregg is hopeful. "I think this time it's corrected," he said. If Johnson can come back 100 percent, Gregg will be able to proceed with plans to move Donnie Humphrey to nose tackle and line up with Johnson, Humphrey, and Alphonso Carreker across the front, backed by Robert Brown, Bill Neill, and Charles Martin.

Linebacking is the heart of the Green Bay defense. John Anderson, Mike Douglass, Randy Scott, and George Cumby form a quartet that ranks among the best in the league. Anderson was voted the most valuable player on the defense for the third year in a row. Big-play specialist Douglass led the club in sacks, with nine. Scott led the team in tackles and Cumby improved as the season progressed. Rich Wingo is an excellent reserve and Cliff Lewis, Guy Prather, and John Dorsey will be joined by fifth-round rookie Brian Noble of Arizona State for backup competition.

The coaching of Ken Riley was credited for the substantial improvement in the Packer secondary, where a more aggressive attitude dominated. "When we first got here, this was one area I was really concerned about," said Gregg. Cornerbacks Mark Lee and Tim Lewis were solid and rookie Tom Flynn sparkled at free safety by leading the NFC in interceptions, with nine. Mark Murphy emerged at

yard average per catch put him ahead of everybody in the league. The speed of Phillip Epps opposite Lofton prevents teams from clamping down entirely on Lofton, but the Packers revealed a need for depth by drafting Walter Stanley in the fourth round. He hasn't played in college since 1981 and may help sooner as a kick returner than as a receiver. Ron Cassidy and Lenny Taylor are adequate backups. Coffman remains the best tight end in football in the opinion of many observers. Only Lofton catches more passes in Green Bay, but Coffman caught more for touchdowns, leading the club with nine. Texas A&M's Mark Lewis was drafted in the sixth round, but Coffman rarely needs help. Backup Ed West caught only seven passes, but five went for touchdowns.

PACKERS VETERAN ROSTER

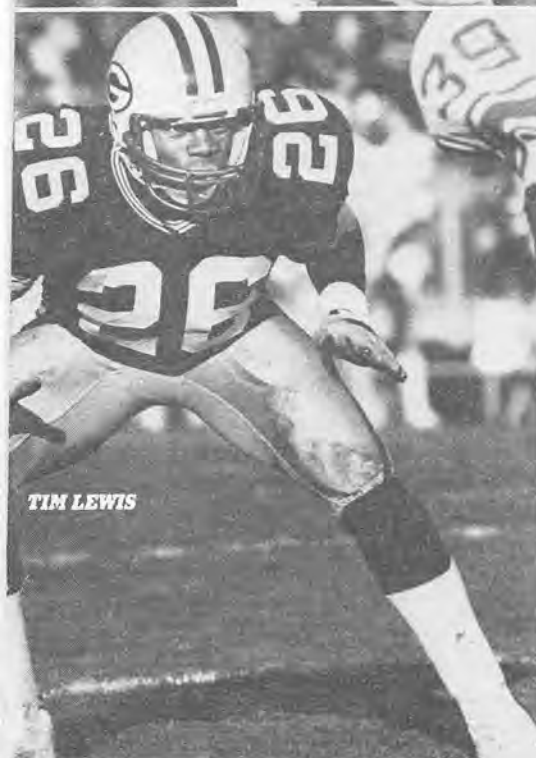
no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	NFL college
59	Anderson, John	LB	6-3	229	29	8	Michigan
93	Brown, Robert	DE	6-2	250	25	4	Virginia Tech
	Brunner, Scott	QB	6-5	200	28	5	Delaware
19	Campbell, Rich	QB	6-4	219	27	5	California
58	Cannon, Mark	C	6-3	258	33	2	Tex. Arlington
76	Carreker, Alphonso	DE	6-6	260	23	2	Florida St.
88	Cassidy, Ron	WR	6-0	180	28	6	Utah State
33	Clark, Jessie	FB	6-0	233	25	3	Arkansas
82	Coffman, Paul	TE	6-3	225	29	7	Kansas State
21	Crouse, Ray	RB	5-11	214	26	2	UNLV
52	Cumby, George	LB	6-0	224	29	6	Oklahoma
10	Del Greco, Al	K	5-10	195	23	2	Auburn
98	DeLuca, Tony	NT	6-4	250	25	2	Rhode Island
12	Dickey, Lynn	QB	6-4	203	36	15	Kansas St.
99	Dorsey, John	LB	6-2	235	25	2	Connecticut
53	Douglass, Mike	LB	6-0	214	30	8	San Diego St.
61	Drechsler, Dave	G	6-3	264	25	3	No. Carolina
31	Ellis, Gerry	FB	5-11	225	28	6	Missouri
85	Epps, Phillip	WR	5-10	155	26	4	TCU
41	Flynn, Tom	S	6-0	195	23	2	Pittsburgh
24	Gray, Johnnie	FS	5-11	202	32	10	Cal Fullerton
65	Hallstrom, Ron	T	6-6	283	26	4	Iowa
69	Harris, Leolis	G	6-1	265	30	7	Arkansas
27	Hayes, Gary	DB	5-10	180	28	2	Fresno St.
78	Hoffman, Gary	T	6-7	282	24	2	Santa Clara
38	Hood, Estus	DB	5-11	189	30	8	Illinois St.
25	Huckleby, Harlan	RB	6-1	201	28	6	Michigan
74	Huffman, Tim	T	6-5	282	26	5	Notre Dame
79	Humphrey, Donnie	DE	6-3	275	24	2	Auburn
40	Ivey, Eddie Lee	HB	6-1/2	214	28	5	Georgia Tech
83	Jefferson, John	WR	6-1	204	29	8	Arizona St.
90	Johnson, Ezra	DE	6-4	259	30	9	Morris Brown
43	Jones, Darryl	DB	6-0	190	23	2	Georgia
63	Jones, Terry	DT	6-2	253	29	8	Alabama
68	Koch, Greg	T	6-4	276	30	9	Arkansas
22	Lee, Mark	DB	5-11	188	27	6	Washington
81	Lewis, Gary	TE	6-5	234	27	5	Tex. Arlington
56	Lewis, Cliff	LB	6-1	224	26	5	So. Miss.
26	Lewis, Tim	DB	5-11	191	24	3	Pittsburgh
80	Lofton, James	WR	6-3	197	29	8	Stanford
94	Martin, Charles	DE	6-4	270	26	2	Livingston
54	McCarren, Larry	C	6-3	251	34	13	Illinois
29	McCoy, Mike	DB	5-11	190	32	9	Colorado
28	McLeod, Mike	DB	6-0	180	27	2	Montana St.
60	Moore, Blake	OL	6-5	272	27	6	Wooster
37	Murphy, Mark	FS	6-2	201	27	5	West Liberty
77	Neill, Bill	NT	6-4	267	26	5	Pittsburgh
51	Prather, Guy	LB	6-2	229	27	5	Grambling
35	Rodgers, Del	RB	5-10	202	25	3	Utah
55	Scott, Randy	LB	6-1	222	26	5	Alabama
13	Scribner, Bucky	P	6-0	202	25	3	Kansas
67	Swanker, Karl	OL	6-6	262	28	6	Boston College
84	Taylor, Lenny	WR	5-10	179	24	2	Tennessee
70	Uecker, Keith	OL	6-5	270	25	4	Auburn
95	Waller, Ken	OL	6-4	260	27	1	Texas Tech
86	West, Ed	TE	6-1	242	24	2	Auburn
50	Wingo, Rich	LB	6-1	227	29	6	Alabama
16	Wright, Randy	QB	6-2	194	24	2	Wisconsin
	Young, Andre	LB	6-2	225	25	1	Bowling Green

DRAFTED

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Ruettggers, Ken	OT	6-5	275	Southern Cal
3	Moran, Rich	OG	6-3	272	San Diego St.
4	Stanley, Walter	WR	5-9	180	Mesa
5	Noble, Brian	LB	6-3	237	Arizona St.
6	Lewis, Mark	TE	6-2	235	Texas A&M
7	Wilson, Eric	LB	6-1	247	Maryland
7	Ellerson, Gary	RB	5-11	220	Wisconsin
8	Stillis, Ken	DB	5-10	185	Wisconsin
9	Johnson, Morris	OG	6-2	314	Alabama A&M
10	Burgess, Ronnie	DB	5-11	174	Wake Forest
11	Shield, Joe	QB	6-1	185	Trinity (CT)
12	Meyer, Jim	P	6-4	204	Arizona St.



JOHN ANDERSON



TIM LEWIS

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

When new Tampa Bay coach Leeman Bennett talks about the Buccaneers, he sounds refreshingly candid and even objective. New coaches can afford such perspective because they really aren't talking about their team. When Bennett mentions the Buccaneers in a position-by-position breakdown, the word "upgrade" creeps into his conversation at nearly every turn.

Bennett even allows the observation that the legendary Lee Roy Selmon, cornerstone of the franchise and future Hall of Famer, "has aged some." While this obvious admission to the laws of nature might seem like heresy in Tampa, Bennett goes even further in his assessment of the Bucs' defensive line. "We have to start thinking of bringing some young defensive linemen along," he said. In the first round of the draft, the Bucs started doing just that by taking Washington defensive end Ron Holmes. Although Holmes is slated for the left side opposite Selmon, the stage is set for change. The second draft choice, Baylor's Ervin Randle, is penciled into the notes of most scouts as a defensive end, nose tackle, or inside linebacker.

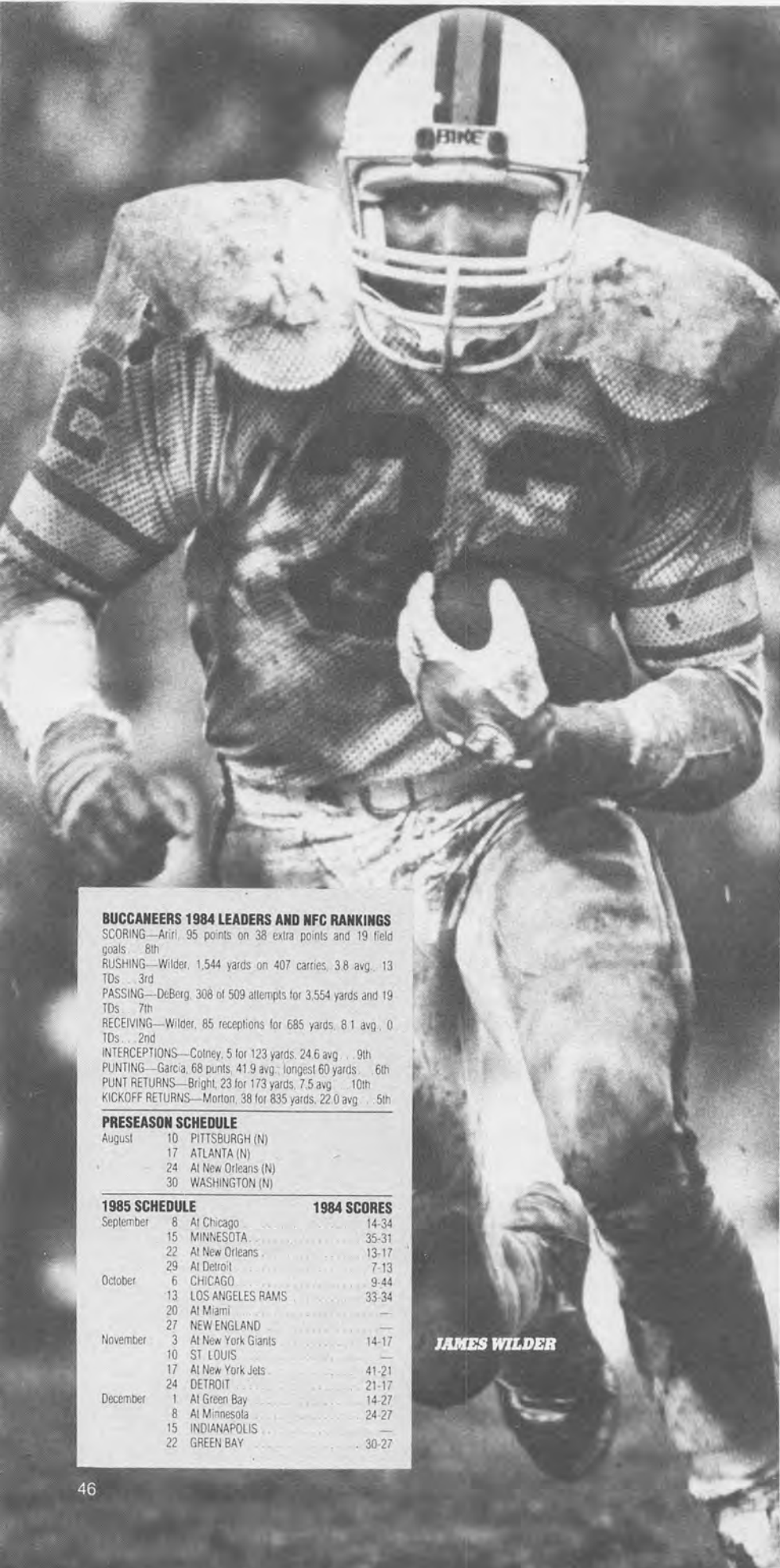
Change is mandatory as well as inevitable because the Bucs were 20th in defense last season and 10th in offense. That is no way to perpetuate a reputation for great defense. "I don't see any segment of the defense that could not use some help," said Bennett. Still, he appreciates the expectations of the faithful, who have seen better times than the last two seasons, when the club won only eight games. "I expect us to be able to compete for the championship of our division this year, a division that I regard as strong and balanced," said Bennett.

On offense, Tampa Bay has a weapon that can unbalance things by himself. James Wilder is called a running back by trade. By performance, he is simply a franchise. The Bears' Walter Payton is the sport's all-time runner and the Rams' Eric Dickerson is the one-season leading rusher. Wilder may be the best back in the game. Like Payton, he catches and blocks as well as runs. Unlike Payton, he weighs 225 pounds and is only 27 years old. Last year, Wilder carried on 84 percent of Tampa's running plays and fell only three short of the NFL record for catches by a running back, with 85. His 492 times running or receiving the ball are by far the NFL single-season record. Only two players in league history (O.J. Simpson in 1975 and Dickerson in 1984) have had more than the 2,229 yards rushing and receiving Wilder totaled in 1984.

"He is an aggressive, straight-ahead runner who can just splatter a defender," said Bennett. "What makes him so special is his completeness as both a receiver and blocker." But Bennett warns: "We can't expect him to play at that pace year after year."

Exactly whom does Wilder block for? Nobody else on the team gained more than 59 yards, and that was by quarterback Steve DeBerg. The Bucs do have more than one running back on the roster; the one who does the most work is called "Lead Dog." He is Adger Armstrong, who leads the way for Wilder.

DeBerg did more than hand off. His emergence as "the most consistent quarterback the Bucs have ever had," according to Bennett, is credited with the transformation of the Bucs from a Doug Williams-bomb offense to a



JAMES WILDER

BUCCANEERS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Airi, 95 points on 38 extra points and 19 field goals . . . 8th
RUSHING—Wilder, 1,544 yards on 407 carries, 3.8 avg. . . 13 TDs . . . 3rd
PASSING—DeBerg, 308 of 509 attempts for 3,554 yards and 19 TDs . . . 7th
RECEIVING—Wilder, 85 receptions for 685 yards, 8.1 avg. . . 0 TDs . . . 2nd
INTERCEPTIONS—Cotney, 5 for 123 yards, 24.6 avg. . . 9th
PUNTING—Garcia, 68 punts, 41.9 avg., longest 60 yards . . . 6th
PUNT RETURNS—Bright, 23 for 173 yards, 7.5 avg. . . 10th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Morton, 38 for 835 yards, 22.0 avg. . . 5th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	10	PITTSBURGH (N)
	17	ATLANTA (N)
	24	At New Orleans (N)
	30	WASHINGTON (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September	8	At Chicago	14-34
	15	MINNESOTA	35-31
	22	At New Orleans	13-17
	29	At Detroit	7-13
October	6	CHICAGO	9-44
	13	LOS ANGELES RAMS	33-34
	20	At Miami	—
	27	NEW ENGLAND	—
November	3	At New York Giants	14-17
	10	ST. LOUIS	—
	17	At New York Jets	41-21
	24	DETROIT	21-17
December	1	At Green Bay	14-27
	8	At Minnesota	24-27
	15	INDIANAPOLIS	—
	22	GREEN BAY	30-27

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ball-control offense that helps its defense. "The thing you like about DeBerg is that he has shown improvement each year," said Bennett. "He is a leader on the field and the kind of quarterback you can win with." DeBerg completed 60 percent of his passes. He completed at least 15 passes for a minimum of 190 yards every time he started. Behind DeBerg, the Bucs have former starter Jack Thompson and second-year prospect Blair Kiel.

DeBerg's play probably had something to do with the showing of the Buc wide receivers,

who enjoyed their best season ever as a unit. Starters Kevin House and Gerald Carter complemented each other short and long, each averaging around 13 yards a catch and grabbing almost as many balls as Wilder. Both scored five touchdowns. Theo Bell and Dwayne Dixon will vie for the third receiver spot. At tight end, Bennett hopes to inspire Jimmie Giles to the heights he enjoyed several years ago. "It will be important to have more than one good tight end," said Bennett. Jerry Bell led the position in catches last year.

Bennett likes the right side of his offensive line, with Ron Heller at tackle and Sean Farrell at guard. But the left side is in need of upgrading. Gene Sanders was the primary starter. Kelly Thomas and Ken Kaplan will get a chance this season. At left guard, Steve Courson, Glenn Bujnoch, and Rick Mallory will compete. Center Steve Wilson will get a challenge from Randy Grimes.

Selmon led the club in sacks for the eighth time in nine years and was healthy for the entire season in 1984. If Holmes can upgrade the left side of the line, Selmon will make other teams unhealthy. Nose tackle David Logan stretched his starting string to 71 games and led the line in tackles. Last year's starter at left end, John Cannon, is an intense player who improved late in the season.

Any team that loses a Hugh Green is going to feel the effects. The Bucs were without their star right linebacker for eight games after Green was injured in an auto accident. Chris Washington got valuable experience in Green's absence and will battle Keith Browner for the left spot. Inside, starters Jeff Davis and Scot Brantley may be joined again by former insider Cecil Johnson or by rookie Randle.

The upgrading is most urgent in the secondary, where the Bucs have three safeties in their ninth or tenth seasons. Beasley Reece, Mark Cotney, and Cedric Brown all are getting up in years. John Holt and Jeremiah Castille are young corners, and the Bucs have youth behind them in second-year man Fred Acorn and fourth-round draft choice Mike Heaven.

Bennett calls the special teams average, but they were better than that by Buc standards. Punter Frank Garcia led the NFC with a 42.2-yard average in 1983 and set a Buc record for net average in 1984, proving he could

survive five cuts in the league. Place-kicker Obed Ariri set a club mark by making 19 field goals. His percentage suffered because he did not try a field goal inside 40 yards until the ninth game of the season. Michael Morton led the team in kickoff returns, with a 22-yard average, and Leon Bright led in punt returns, with a 7.5-yard average.



LEE ROY SELMON



STEVE DeBERG



HUGH GREEN

BUCCANEERS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	NFL college
10	Abbott, Vince	K	5-11	200	27	1	Cal Fullerton
27	Acorn, Fred	DB	5-10	180	24	2	Texas
2	Ariri, Obed	PK	5-8	170	29	2	Clemson
46	Armstrong, Adger	RB	6-0	225	28	6	Texas A&M
82	Bell, Jerry	TE	6-5	230	26	4	Arizona St.
83	Bell, Theo	WR	6-0	195	32	9	Arizona
40	Bohannon, Fred	DB	6-2	205	27	3	Miss. Valley
71	Braggs, Byron	DE	6-4	270	26	5	Alabama
52	Brantley, Scot	LB	6-1	230	27	6	Florida
80	Branton, Gene	WR	6-4	235	25	1	Texas Southern
29	Bright, Leon	RB	5-9	190	30	5	Florida State
34	Brown, Cedric	DB	6-2	200	31	9	Kent State
57	Browner, Keith	LB	6-5	240	23	2	Southern Cal
77	Bujnoch, Glenn	OG	6-6	265	32	10	Texas A&M
78	Cannon, John	DE	6-5	260	25	4	William & Mary
86	Carroll, Jay	TE	6-4	230	24	2	Minnesota
87	Carter, Gerald	WR	6-1	190	28	6	Texas A&M
28	Carver, Melvin	RB	5-11	225	26	4	UNLV
23	Castille, Jeremiah	DB	5-10	175	24	3	Alabama
33	Cotney, Mark	DB	6-0	205	33	10	Cameron St.
72	Courson, Steve	G	6-1	270	30	8	South Carolina
31	Curry, Craig	DB	6-0	190	24	2	Texas
75	Darris, Phil	DE	6-3	245	26	2	Miss. Valley
58	Davis, Jeff	LB	6-0	230	25	4	Clemson
17	DeBerg, Steve	QB	6-3	205	31	9	San Jose St.
25	Dierking, Scott	RB	5-11	225	30	9	Purdue
81	Dixon, Dwayne	WR	6-1	205	23	2	Florida
62	Farrell, Sean	OL	6-3	260	25	4	Penn St.
44	Ferguson, Vagas	RB	6-0	205	28	4	Notre Dame
5	Garcia, Frank	P	6-0	205	28	3	Arizona
88	Giles, Jimmie	TE	6-3	240	31	9	Alcorn St.
53	Green, Hugh	LB	6-2	225	26	5	Pittsburgh
60	Grimes, Randy	OL	6-4	265	25	3	Baylor
96	Gunn, Carlton	NT	6-2	305	25	8	Carson-Newman
73	Heller, Ron	OT	6-6	270	23	2	Penn St.
95	Hines, Joe	LB	6-0	225	25	1	TCU
21	Holt, John	DB	5-11	180	26	5	West Texas St.
89	House, Kevin	WR	6-1	185	28	6	So. Illinois
91	Janata, John	OT	6-7	275	24	2	Illinois
56	Johnson, Cecil	LB	6-2	235	30	9	Pittsburgh
99	Jostes, Randy	NG	6-4	270	24	8	Missouri
79	Kaplan, Ken	OT	6-4	270	25	2	New Hampshire
98	Kennell, Lonnie	NT	6-2	270	24	1	Wichita St.
16	Kiel, Blair	QB	6-0	200	24	2	Notre Dame
97	Lindstrom, Chris	DE	6-7	260	25	2	Boston
76	Logan, David	DT	6-2	250	29	7	Pittsburgh
68	Mallory, Rick	G	6-2	265	25	1	Washington
67	Morgan, Karl	NT	6-1	255	24	2	UCLA
20	Morton, Michael	KR	5-8	180	25	4	UNLV
49	Newton, Kelvin	LB	6-1	235	26	1	TCU
26	Owens, James	RB	5-11	200	30	7	UCLA
38	Peoples, George	RB	6-0	215	25	4	Auburn
43	Reece, Beasley	DB	6-1	195	31	10	No. Texas St.
19	Retherford, David	WR	6-0	180	24	8	Purdue
74	Sanders, Gene	OT	6-3	285	29	7	Texas A&M
63	Selmon, Lee Roy	DE	6-3	250	31	10	Oklahoma
55	Spradlin, Danny	LB	6-1	235	26	5	Tennessee
64	Swafford, Don	OT	6-7	280	28	1	Florida
70	Thomas, Kelly	OT	6-6	270	25	3	Southern Cal
41	Thomas, Norris	DB	6-0	180	31	9	Southern Miss
84	Thomas, Zach	WR	6-0	185	25	3	S.C. St.
14	Thompson, Jack	QB	6-3	220	29	6	Washington St.
59	Thompson, Robert	LB	6-3	230	25	3	Michigan
49	Newton, Kelvin	LB	6-1	235	26	1	TCU
51	Washington, Chris	LB	6-4	225	23	2	Iowa St.
32	Wilder, James	RB	6-3	220	27	5	Missouri
50	Wilson, Steve	C	6-4	270	31	10	Georgia
85	Witte, Mark	TE	6-3	235	26	3	North Texas St.

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Holmes, Ron	DE	6-4	255	Washington
3	Randle, Ervin	LB	6-1	250	Baylor
4	Heaven, Mike	DB	5-11	180	Illinois
7	Prior, Mike	DB	6-0	200	Illinois St.
8	Freeman, Phil	WR	5-11	185	Arizona
9	Calabria, Steve	QB	6-3	215	Colgate
10	Igweluke, Donald	K	5-9	175	Clemson
11	Williams, Punkin	RB	5-10	205	Memphis St.
12	Rockford, Jim	DB	5-10	180	Oklahoma
12	Melka, Jim	LB	6-1	230	Wisconsin

continued on page 56

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● When John Riggins took his famous snooze under the table during Vice President Bush's address at the annual Washington Press Club black-tie dinner last winter, Washington Redskins' owner Jack Kent Cooke might have been discomfited, but there were consolations. For one thing, the end of Riggins's football career is on the horizon, and while Cook will miss the sight of Riggins thundering over unfortunate cornerbacks and safeties, he is unlikely to miss the unpredictable behavior of his eccentric star. For another thing, there is possible help beyond the same horizon, where the United States Football League is now among sport's more fragile enterprises.

It seems that the year the USFL went into business and raided the 1983 college draft, the Redskins quietly invested a seventh-round draft choice in a North Carolina running back, Kelvin Bryant, who already had signed with the USFL's Stars, then based in Philadelphia. That seventh-round draft, assuming the USFL becomes as extinct as the giant lizard fairly soon, may keep the Redskins' trend of frequent victories going for a long time.

When Bryant came out of North Carolina, the scouts ranked him just behind Eric Dickerson of Southern Methodist and Curt Warner of Penn State as a running back with enormous pro potential. Dickerson went on to turn around the Los Angeles Rams franchise; Warner became the catalyst for the Seattle Seahawks' "Ground Chuck" offense under head coach Chuck Knox and the reason for the team's first playoff appearance in its history. Nothing Bryant has done with the Stars indicates that he wouldn't have a career approaching that success if he ever gets into a Redskins' uniform. Coach Joe Gibbs can hardly wait to see.

In Buffalo, the season-ticket sales slipped badly over the last few years after Knox defected to Seattle and Joe Cribbs to the Birmingham Stallions of the USFL. The Joe Ferguson era is at an end in Buffalo, and now owner Ralph Wilson has 80,000 seats to fill in Rich Stadium. Wilson's deus ex machina could be Jim Kelly, the Houston Gamblers' wonder quarterback the Bills were five minutes away from signing in 1983. Even though the Bills lost Kelly, they retain exclusive NFL rights to the former University of Miami star until draft day 1987. By then, the USFL may be a distant memory.

The Buffalo front office has been eating its heart out since one of its own was party to Kelly's escape to the Gamblers. It happened this way: Pat McGroder, then the team's general manager, had reached the point in negotiations with Kelly's agents where the discussion concerned when the press conference announcing the signing should be held. Just then, McGroder's secretary entered his office and announced that there was a phone call for one of the agents, A.J. Faigin. "A Mr. Bruce Allen is calling you," she said. McGroder's face registered shock. Allen, George Allen's son, was then general manager of the Chicago Blitz, which held Kelly's USFL's rights. Allen told Faigin that, through Tampa Bay Bandits' owner John Bassett, it had been arranged that Kelly could virtually pick his USFL team. Faigin hung up and re-entered McGroder's office. All commitments were called off and Kelly subsequently signed with the Houston expansion team.

Every time Ralph Wilson turns on his television set, Kelly throws touchdown passes all over his living room rug. It has so frustrated the Bills' owner that he has vowed to sign Kelly if he becomes available again. The breakup of the USFL is about the only thing which would make that possible.

The Philadelphia Eagles are changing their personality to a more defensive-oriented team, and in the last two years they have developed Mark Brown into one of the better pass rushers in the National Conference. But what Marion Camp-

by **LARRY FELSER** BUFFALO NEWS

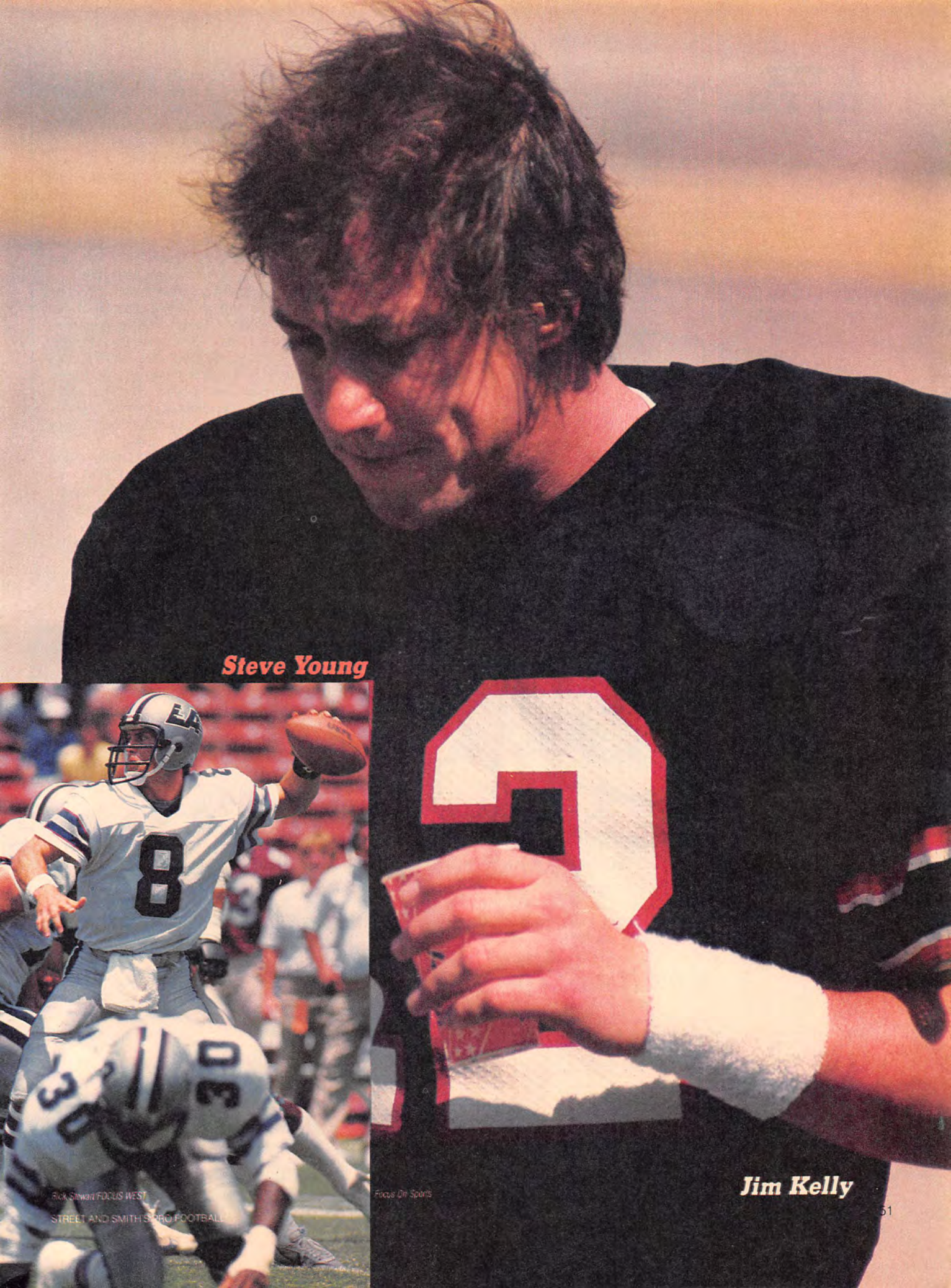
continued

AFTER THE FALL

**who
(in the NFL)
owns what
if the USFL
disbands**

Kelvin Bryant





Steve Young



Rick Stewart FOCUS WEST

STREET AND SMITH SPORT FOOTBALL

Focus On Sports

Jim Kelly

AFTER THE FALL

continued

bell, the Eagles' defensive-minded head coach, really needs is Reggie White, the top defensive lineman in the '84 draft. White decided to stay down south when he finished at Tennessee and signed with the Memphis Showboats.

The NFL team which would benefit most from a final solution for the USFL troubles is the San Diego Chargers. They could retool their offense and put some gusto into their flabby defense with the talent to which they hold NFL title in the USFL. Here are four players who would make an immediate impact:



**Doug Flutie
Herschel Walker
Gary Anderson**

1) Gary Anderson—The multitasking running back/receiver for the Tampa Bay Bandits, the ex-Arkansas star could be an updated version of Joe Cribbs.

2) Trumaine Johnson—The Grambling receiver who became one of the first name players to sign with the new league, he excelled for George Allen's Chicago Blitz, then slipped into a nether world with the Arizona team in one of those bizarre USFL moves.

3) Tim Spencer—The former Ohio State power runner, he has traveled the Chicago-Arizona-Memphis route in his three USFL seasons.

4) Mossy Cade—A former All-America cornerback from Texas, he, like Anderson, was a Charger No. 1 draft choice who got away. After long and bitter contract negotiations, Cade opted for Memphis.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers' fans have never seen a real, live, major-league passing attack from their team. Under the stewardship of John McKay, the franchise's only head coach until this season, the offense was tailored more to Southern California tailbacks geared to play Oregon State and Stan-

ford. But the Bucs' foremost USFL property is the claim to former Brigham Young All-America Steve Young, the \$40-million quarterback. The Bucs, with Young under the direction of new coach Leeman Bennett, a far more inventive man than McKay, would be an interesting team to watch.

Kansas City has had problems developing a running game to complement its passing attack. The problems might be far less serious if Irv Eatman (UCLA), the top young offensive lineman in the USFL, for the Baltimore Stars, became available. The Chiefs also hold NFL title to Mark Adickes (Baylor), probably the premier tackle in the '84 draft and now the property of the Express. Adickes deserves an asterisk, however, because of a knee injury he suffered last year.

The Express, which overspent scandalously and then found itself a ward of the league, signed a platoon of rich talent. In the offensive line with Adickes were center Mike Ruether of Texas and guard Gary Zimmerman of Oregon, considered by many NFL scouts as the best seniors at their positions in '83. Ruether's NFL rights belong to St. Louis, Zimmerman's to the New York Giants, with whom his agent talked before the '84 season. The Giants broke off negotiations when they were not convinced Zimmerman was legally free of his contract.

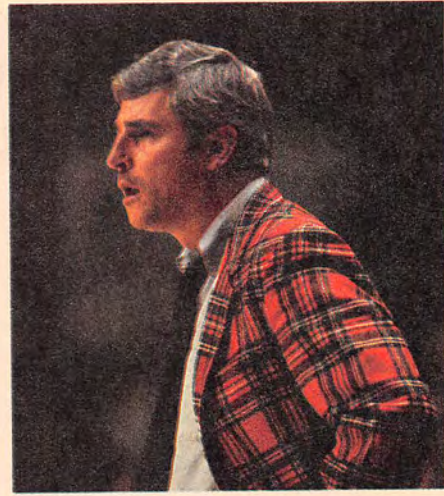
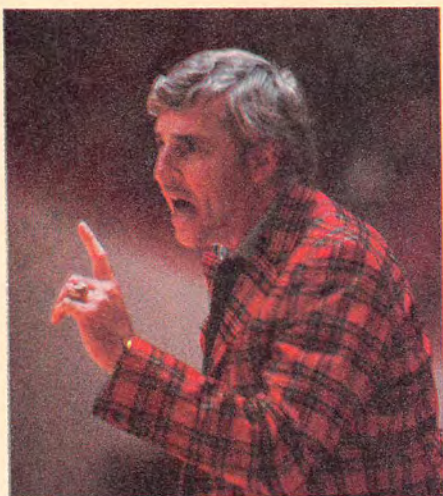
The Express also has some other interesting talent. Pittsburgh made Indiana receiver Duane Gunn its top pick in the supplemental draft, an honor bestowed upon Express safety Dwight Drain by Buffalo and cornerback Allanda Smith of Texas A&M by Minnesota. Kicker Tony Zendejas of Nevada Reno, was selected by Washington with an eye to making him Mark Moseley's eventual successor.

Some USFL players were selected by NFL teams with the idea of strengthening areas in which they have been tradi-

continued



David L. Johnson



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AFTER THE FALL

continued

tionally strong. New Orleans, for instance, already linebacker-rich, drafted Vaughn Johnson (North Carolina State), currently a Jacksonville Bull. Denver, always long on pass rushers, chose Georgia's Freddie Gilbert, a New Jersey General. The Rams own the rights to William Fuller, the North Carolina pass rusher who signed with the Baltimore Stars before the NFL draft. Minnesota thought it had helped solve its pass-rush problems by drafting Keith Millard of Washington State in the first round of the '84 draft, but negotiations with Millard were so long and agonizing, he finally signed with the Bulls of the USFL. The Vikings have regretted it ever since.

Some USFL stars already have defected to the NFL. Maurice Carthon, Herschel Walker's running mate with the Generals and a more dependable short-yardage specialist than his more celebrated teammate, will be a New York Giant in the 1985 NFL season. Clemson's Kevin Mack, of the Express, has signed an '85 contract to play running back for the Cleveland Browns. Yet another Express player, Lee Williams, the big defensive end whom San Diego made its first selection in the supplemental draft, finished the 1984 season with the Chargers.

Probably the most helpful of the defectors is Craig James, Eric Dickerson's former running mate at SMU. James was signed as a sort of trophy by the Washington Federals of the USFL after the San Francisco 49ers indicated they would make him the top pick in their 1983 draft. James was buried under a mountain of poor support in Washington, but when he obtained his release and joined New England, he quickly became one of the Patriots' chief offensive assets.

There are those USFL stars who wish that they could have found the same sort of escape hatch as James did. Among these is Anthony Carter, the former University of Michigan great, who eschewed the NFL to stay in the state where he became famous, signing with the Michigan Panthers. Carter was instrumental in the Panthers' winning the first USFL title, but that team dissolved after last season and suddenly Carter found himself a member of the Oakland Invaders. Since his rights are held by the Miami Dolphins, a team just south of his Riviera Beach, Florida, home, the transfer to Oakland was a shock. It will be a shock to opposing NFL pass defenses, too, if Carter is ever inserted in a Dolphin passing attack which already includes Pro Bowlers Mark Clayton and Mark Duper catching Dan Marino's tosses.

For others, a future in the NFL would be somewhat uncertain. Reggie Collier, for instance, is being used as a quarterback by the USFL Orlando Renegades (formerly the Federals). It's almost certain the Dallas Cowboys, who own his NFL rights, will try to make a receiver or running back out of him.

The future could be more interesting for other, lesser-known USFLers who originally failed to make it in the NFL but developed once they got a chance to play regularly in the new league. Chief among them may be defensive tackle Kit Lathrop of Arizona, who twice was named the USFL's defensive player of the year. Tampa Bay wide receiver Eric Truvillion, a

college quarterback, got a quick audition with the New York Jets when he came out of school, then was cut. Given the opportunity to play by the Bandits, he developed into one of the USFL's best pass catchers.

Then there are the NFL defectors, who present opportunities of a different sort for the teams which still retain their rights. Buffalo, for instance, holds the rights to Birmingham Stallions' star Joe Cribbs, but in his absence the Bills found happiness with young Greg Bell of Notre Dame. Considering that the Bills are in a rebuilding period, Cribbs's chief value to them would be as a valuable chip in a trade. Cribbs's Birmingham teammate, Jim Smith, on the other hand, would be welcomed as an important receiver by the Pittsburgh Steelers, considering John Stallworth's advancing age.

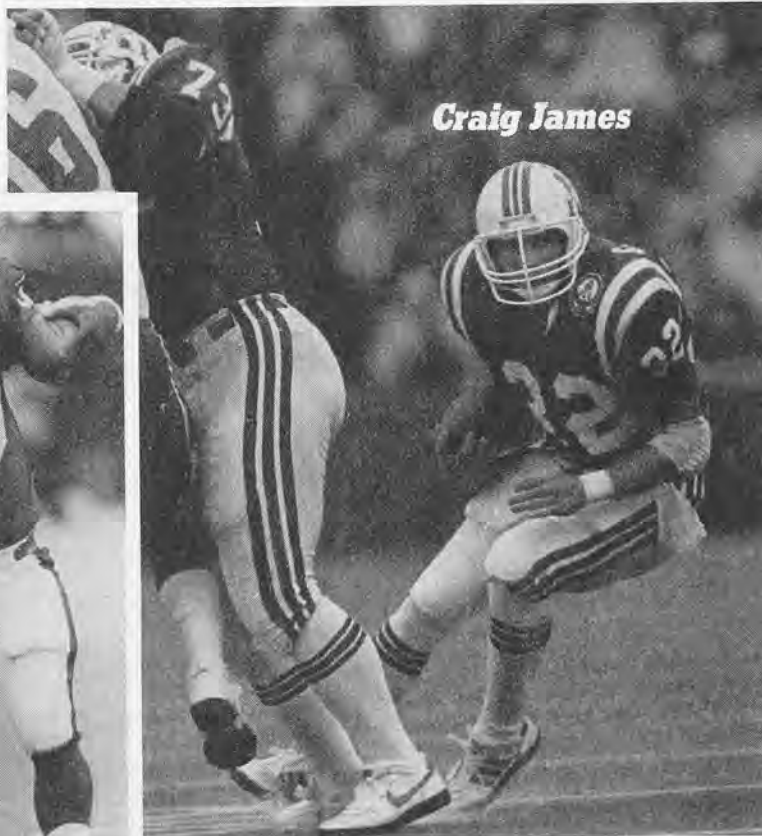
Pete Kugler's situation is strange. He developed into a first-rate nose tackle with the San Francisco 49ers in 1983, then jumped to the USFL Stars in order to play in his home town, Philadelphia. But the Stars moved from Philadelphia to Baltimore, disillusioning Kugler. In his absence, the 49ers quickly developed a couple of nose tackles on their Super Bowl champions. If Kugler became available, though, he would be valuable to San Francisco as trade barter, especially since the Philadelphia Eagles could use a nose tackle of his ability.

Dan Ross signed with the USFL Breakers because he wanted to play in his home town, Boston. But the Breakers moved to New Orleans in '84 and to Portland in '85. Ross still might be welcomed back to Cincinnati. The Bengals made peace with Cris Collinsworth, whose future contract with the Tampa Bay Bandits was voided last year. Coach Sam Wyche, who rebuilt the Bengals into a contender, could use two veterans such as Ross and Collinsworth, to break in a new quarterback, Boomer Esiason.

Since the NFL dropped plans for another supplemental draft in view of the USFL's failure to sign more than a handful of top collegiate players this year, such free-agent stars as Herschel Walker and Doug Flutie of the New Jersey Generals were handled in the regular draft.



**Maurice
Carthon**



Craig James



BUD GRANT

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

The return of Bud Grant does not necessarily mean the return of the Minnesota Vikings. No one preaches that possibility louder than "Old Stone Face" himself. With a straight face, Grant predicts his team is "probably looking at three years down the road to get to the upper echelon." It is a startling assessment by a man who never seemed to believe in rebuilding programs, or need them, when he dominated the NFC Central Division.

"We are looking to the draft to get us back into business," said Grant. "Patience is a great virtue, and fans and sportswriters need to have it. That doesn't mean we can't be entertaining. But realistically, we can't compete with the top teams this year." Grant no doubt learned from Br'er Rabbit while spending all that time in the woods. His rival coaches know better than to count him out. "I wish he would have stayed on the fishing pond," said Green Bay's Forrest Gregg.

The Vikings got 15 players out of the twelve-round draft, and every one of them has a chance to stick with a club that normally doesn't pay any attention to anyone until his third year. Grant has promised a short training camp, as usual, and he won't terrorize his team with the obstacle course used by one-year coach Les Steckel. "It will still be there, but it will look like those old bombers standing along an airstrip," said Grant.

If the Vikings are to take off at all, much depends on the return to health of quarterback Tommy Kramer. When he is right, Kramer is one of the most effective quarterbacks in football. The Bears, for one, are scared to death of him and were fortunate to meet the Vikings twice last season when Kramer was laid up. Kramer missed seven games be-

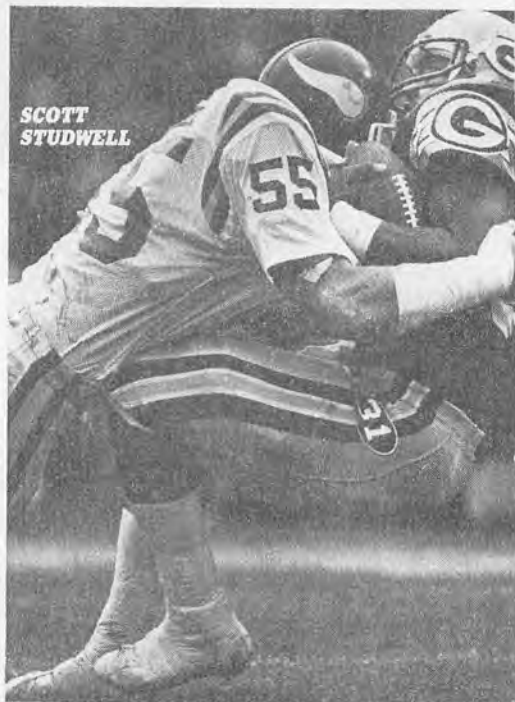
cause of a shoulder injury. Previous problems with a knee injury and with alcohol turned Kramer's career into a questionable proposition. The Vikings tried hard to land quarterback Bernie Kosar, but if Kramer comes back strong, they won't need a rookie. The disturbing thing to the Vikings is that when Kramer did play last year, he was not his usual sharp self. He threw 10 interceptions and nine touchdown passes and completed only 52 percent of his attempts. Wade Wilson ended up starting after veteran Archie Manning took some terrible physical beatings. Sixth-round rookie Steve Bono of UCLA could challenge for a backup position.

If Kramer's injury woes were a problem, they also represented only the tip of the iceberg. The Vikings had 27 players who missed at least one game because of injuries. Wide receiver Sammy White missed three because of a tongue injury. He remains the veteran of a changing corps of wideouts. Leo Lewis was the team's leading receiver, with Mike Jones and Dwight Collins on the opposite side. In fourth-round pick Buster Rhymes of Oklahoma the Vikings have a prospect who could boom or bust. A man of exceptional talent, Rhymes lasted so long because of a questionable college background. But if he decides he wants to be a pro, he has all the tools, starting with size and speed. The Vikings have five candidates at tight end, a position that Joe Senser once owned. Senser is among them, but he missed seven games last season with a foot injury one year after being sidelined by a knee injury. A return to previous form would be a welcome bonus. Steve Jordan led the tight ends in receiving last year and Mike Mularkey caught as many touchdown passes as Jordan (two). Bob Bruer also is in the picture.

When Grant was recently asked why former No. 1 draft choice Darrin Nelson apparently has not reached his potential at running back, Grant quickly answered, "He has played on bad teams." Nelson was the club's third-lead-

ing rusher last season, behind rookie Alfred Anderson and veteran Ted Brown. With only 80 carries and 27 pass receptions, Nelson handled the ball about half as many times as he did in 1983. That is likely to change.

Only four Vikings started every game last year, and three were in the offensive line, a good sign of stability in a vital area. Tackles Tim Irwin and Steve Riley and guard Terry Tausch were the iron men. Entering his twelfth season, Riley remains one of the more remarkable physical specimens in the game. Guards Wes Hamilton and Curtis Rouse will have third-round pick Tim Long of Memphis State along. At nearly 300 pounds, Long is close to the 318-pound Rouse. At center, Ron



SCOTT STUDWELL



NEIL ELSHIRE

VIKINGS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Stenerud, 90 points on 30 extra points and 20 field goals . 12th
RUSHING—A. Anderson, 773 yards on 201 carries, 3.8 avg., 2 TDs . 12th
PASSING—Kramer, 124 of 236 attempts for 1,678 yards and 9 TDs . 12th
RECEIVING—Lewis, 47 receptions for 830 yards, 17.7 avg., 4 TDs . 23rd
INTERCEPTIONS—Bess, 3 for 7 yards, 2.3 avg. . 36th
PUNTING—Coleman, 82 punts, 42.4 avg., longest 62 yards . 2nd
PUNT RETURNS—Nelson, 23 for 180 yards, 7.8 avg. . 9th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Nelson, 39 for 891 yards, 22.8 avg. . 3rd

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 At Miami (N)
17 PITTSBURGH (N)
24 SEATTLE (N)
30 At Denver (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September 8 SAN FRANCISCO
15 At Tampa Bay
19 CHICAGO (N)
29 At Buffalo
October 6 At Los Angeles Rams
13 Green Bay at Milwaukee
20 SAN DIEGO
27 At Chicago
November 3 DETROIT
10 GREEN BAY
17 At Detroit
24 NEW ORLEANS
December 1 At Philadelphia
8 TAMPA BAY
15 At Atlanta
22 PHILADELPHIA

1984 SCORES

7-51
31-35
3-34
—
17-45
13-42
7-16
14-16
14-38
29-28
—
17-19
27-24
27-20
—

Sams and Jim Hough will get immediate help from third-round pick Kirk Lowdermilk of Ohio State. Boston College's Mark MacDonald, a fifth-rounder, will join Matt Hernandez, Brent Boyd, and Grant Feasel for backup duty.

The Vikings finished 28th in defense last year, a sad commentary on just how far this once-proud franchise has slipped. Their first two draft choices, Pitt linebacker Chris Doleman and Alcorn defensive back Issiac Holt, should have few problems breaking into the lineup. If Doleman can't play linebacker, he is big enough to help with the pass rush, where Neil Elshire, Doug Martin, and Charlie Johnson toiled and veteran Mark Mullaney licked wounds. Sixth-round choice Tim Newton of

Florida is another 300-pounder who could play nose tackle.

The linebacking corps looks deeper than the line, with Doleman and another third-round draft choice, Washington's Tim Meamber, joining Matt Blair, Walker Lee Ashley, Scott Studwell, and Robin Sendlein. Veterans Fred McNeill and Dennis Johnson are former starters at linebacker, where competition is bound to bolster production.

If Holt can play cornerback as expected, last year's No. 1 pick, Joey Browner, can go to safety to solidify the backfield. Rufus Bess and Willie Teal are experienced corners and Tommy Hannon, John Swain, and Keith Nord provide depth at safety. Fourth-round draft

pick Kyle Morrell of BYU will challenge. Some observers predict Morrell will become a fixture like former Viking Paul Krause.

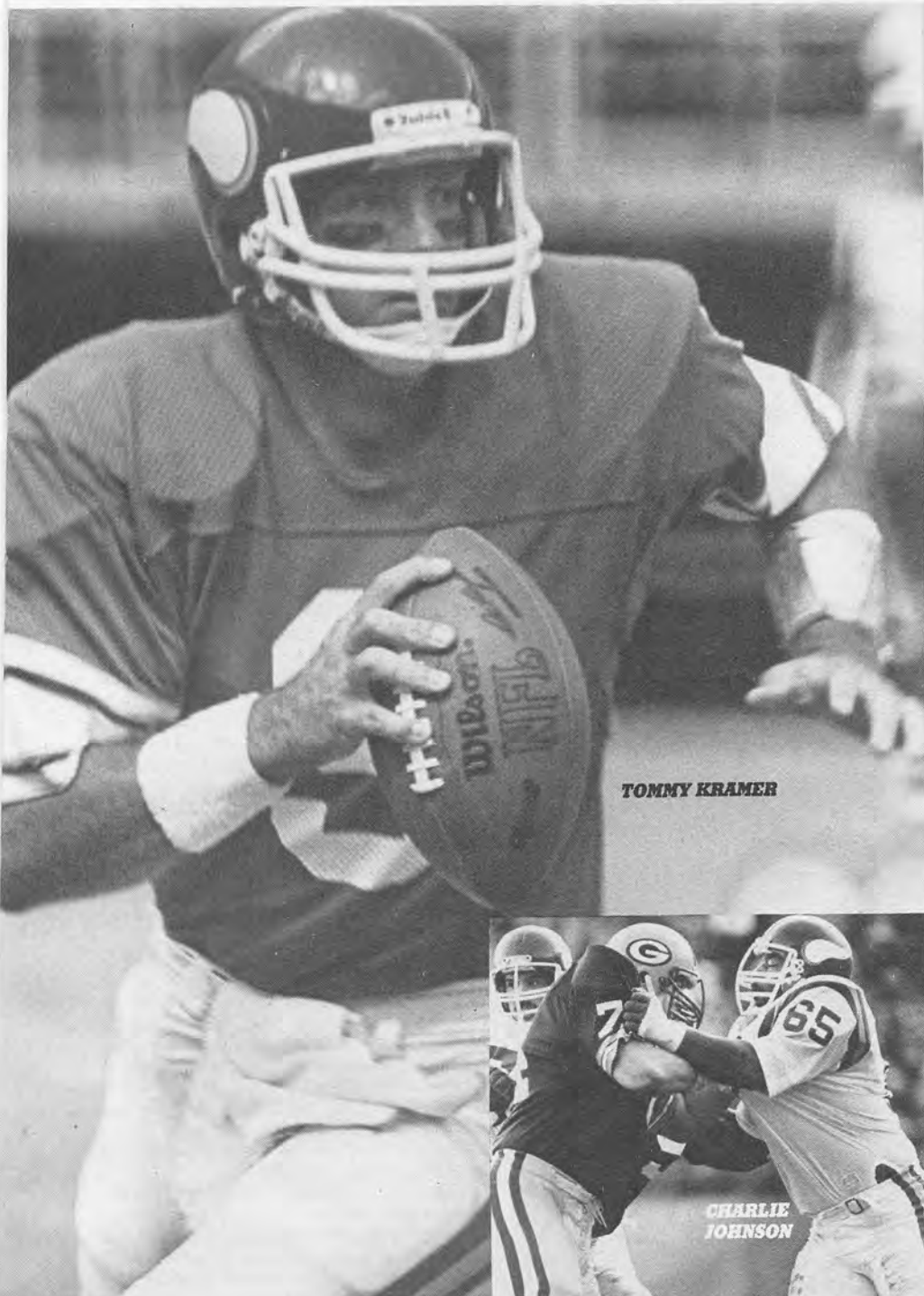
Nelson and Anderson were dangerous kickoff-return men and Nelson is a threat to return every punt he touches all the way. The ageless Jan Stenerud was the No. 1 place-kicker in football as far as average went, hitting 20 of 23. The Vikings' problem was getting across midfield to give Stenerud more chances. Greg Coleman finished near the top of the league in both gross and net punting average, but he got too much work. Viking punt- and kickoff-coverage teams need to tighten up. With all those rookies around, the special teams are bound to improve.

VIKINGS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	college
46	Anderson, Alfred	RB	6-1	213	24	2	Baylor
69	Arbutnot, Hasson	DE	6-4	250	25	3	Texas Tech
58	Ashley, Walker Lee	LB	6-0	240	25	3	Penn St.
21	Bess, Rufus	CB	5-9	185	29	7	S.C. St.
59	Blair, Matt	LB	6-5	235	35	12	Iowa St.
62	Boyd, Brent	G	6-3	275	28	6	UCLA
23	Brown, Ted	RB	5-10	210	28	7	N.C. State
47	Browner, Joey	DB	6-2	205	25	3	USC
82	Brue, Bob	TE	6-5	240	31	7	Mankato St.
8	Coleman, Greg	P	6-0	185	31	9	Florida A&M
84	Collins, Dwight	WR	6-1	208	24	2	Pittsburgh
43	Coller, Jeff	DB	5-10	171	24	2	Kansas
73	Elshire, Neil	DE	6-6	260	27	5	Oregon
64	Feasel, Grant	OL	6-8	278	25	3	Ablene Christian
50	Fowlkes, Dennis	LB	6-2	230	24	3	West Virginia
25	Greene, Marcellus	CB	6-0	184	28	2	Arizona
90	Haines, John	DT	6-6	260	24	2	Texas
61	Hamilton, Wes	G	6-3	270	32	10	Tulsa
45	Hannon, Tom	S	5-11	195	30	9	Michigan St.
60	Hernandez, Matt	T	6-6	262	24	3	Purdue
51	Hough, Jim	G	6-2	275	29	8	Utah State
76	Irwin, Tim	T	6-6	285	27	5	Tennessee
65	Johnson, Charlie	NT	6-3	275	33	9	Colorado
52	Johnson, Dennis	LB	6-3	235	27	6	Southern Cal.
89	Jones, Mike	WR	5-11	176	25	3	Tennessee St.
83	Jordan, Steve	TE	6-3	230	24	4	Brown
9	Kramer, Tommy	QB	6-2	205	30	9	Rice
39	Lee, Carl	DB	5-11	185	24	3	Marshall
87	Lewis, Leo	WR	5-9	170	29	5	Missouri
4	Manning, Archie	QB	6-3	211	36	15	Mississippi
56	Martin, Chris	LB	6-2	230	25	3	Auburn
79	Martin, Doug	DE	6-3	255	28	6	Washington
54	McNeill, Fred	LB	6-2	230	33	12	UCLA
86	Mularkey, Mike	TE	6-4	245	24	3	Florida
77	Mullaney, Mark	DE	6-6	245	32	11	Colorado St.
20	Nelson, Darrin	RB	5-9	180	26	4	Stanford
49	Nord, Keith	S	6-0	195	28	7	St. Cloud St.
36	Rice, Allen	RB-S	5-10	198	23	2	Baylor
78	Riley, Steve	T	6-6	260	33	12	Southern Cal.
68	Rouse, Curtis	G	6-3	305	25	4	Chattanooga
67	Sams, Ron	G	6-3	255	24	2	Pittsburgh
57	Sendlein, Robin	LB	6-3	225	27	5	Texas
81	Senser, Joe	TE	6-4	235	29	6	West Chester St.
91	Smith, Gregory	NT	6-3	261	26	2	Kansas
3	Stenerud, Jan	K	6-2	190	43	19	Montana St.
55	Studwell, Scott	LB	6-2	230	31	9	Illinois
29	Swain, John	CB	6-1	195	26	5	Miami
66	Tausch, Terry	T	6-5	275	26	4	Texas
37	Teal, Willie	CB	5-10	195	28	6	LSU
24	Turner, Maurice	RB	5-11	199	25	2	Utah St.
34	Wagner, Dan	S	5-10	180	26	3	Kansas
85	White, Sammy	WR	5-11	195	31	10	Grambling
11	Wilson, Wade	QB	6-3	210	26	5	E. Texas St.

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Doleman, Chris	LB	6-5	250	Pittsburgh
2	Holt, Issiac	DB	6-1	197	Alcorn St.
3	Lowdermilk, Kirk	C	6-3	265	Ohio St.
3	Meamber, Tim	LB	6-3	228	Washington
3	Long, Tim	OT	6-5	305	Memphis St.
4	Rhymes, Buster	WR	6-1	212	Oklahoma
4	Morrell, Kyle	DB	6-1	189	BYU
5	MacDonald, Mark	G	6-4	267	Boston College
6	Bono, Steve	QB	6-3	211	UCLA
6	Newton, Tim	NT	6-0	302	Florida
8	Blair, Nikita	LB	6-2	224	Texas-El Paso
9	Covington, Jaime	RB	6-0	218	Syracuse
10	Johnson, Juan	WR	5-11	185	Langston
11	Williams, Tim	DT	6-1	200	N. C. A&T
12	Jones, Byron	NT	6-3	276	Tulsa



TOMMY KRAMER

CHARLIE JOHNSON

DETROIT LIONS

New Detroit Lions' coach Darryl Rogers said there was a lot about the NFL he didn't know when he left Arizona State. But two things became clear in a hurry: a team can't win without offense, and it's even harder without defense.

"Our biggest question is whether Billy Sims can recover," Rogers said of the running back who is rehabilitating from knee surgery.

But ask Rogers what the Lions need to do to reverse last year's slide from first to fourth in the NFC Central and he will answer: "The first thing is to play better defense than the year before. Then Rogers gets more specific. "We need help in the secondary, linebacking, and the defensive line. That's almost everywhere." But in the draft the Lions took offensive linemen with their first two picks. After the draft, they traded quarterback Gary Danielson, who "had his best year ever," said Rogers.

So the bottom line is this: the Lions will have trouble getting off the bottom. They need help in the secondary, linebacking, defensive line, running back, offensive line, and quarterback. And quarterback Joe Ferguson, whom the Lions obtained, thought things were bad in Buffalo. Eric Hipple threw only 38 passes last year because he sat out with a knee injury while Danielson appeared to cement the starting job. Now Ferguson adds to the intrigue. He is coming off an ankle injury and a bruised passing arm that are blamed for his 49 percent completion percentage during his final eight games in Buffalo. Unless Ferguson experiences a rebirth in Detroit, the 28-year-old Hipple seems like the logical choice for a franchise that defies logic.

"I want one quarterback," said Rogers. "I'd love to know who it is after two weeks. But it may take a lot longer." For all anyone knows, Rogers might go whole hog on the rebuilding kick and go with third-year man Mike Machurek or second-year man John Witkowski, both of whom saw brief action in 1984. In his three years of playing, Hipple is only a 50 percent passer who never has thrown more touchdown passes than interceptions.

At least the quarterback has a better chance of staying on his feet with the addition of blockers Lomas Brown of Florida and Kevin Glover of Maryland to a team that finished 24th in protecting the passer. Sims will be happy to have extra blocking, too. Although he is confident his rehabilitation program will enable him to return to form, Sims suffered the kind of injury that ends careers. There is no way of telling whether he can come back or how effective he might be until the regular season, not the preseason, starts "He won't play until he's healthy," said Rogers.

With former Sims' backup Dexter Bussey retiring, fifth-round draft choice Joe McIntosh of North Carolina State will get plenty of opportunity to make this club, as will eighth-rounder Scott Caldwell of Texas-Arlington. Fullback James Jones became the team's most valuable offensive player after Sims was sidelined. Besides his blocking power and running, Jones set a team record with 77 pass receptions. Ken Jenkins, Dave D'Addio, and Mike Meade provide depth.

The Lions' receiving is in capable hands. Leonard Thompson is coming off his best season. He enters his eleventh as one of the game's most unsung stars. Young Jeff Chadwick is an excellent possession-type complement to Thompson and Mark Nichols also is

BILLY SIMS

LIONS 1984 LEADERS AND NFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Murray, 91 points on 31 extra points and 20 field goals. 110th

RUSHING—Sims, 687 yards on 130 carries, 5.3 avg. 5 TDs. 13th

PASSING—Danielson, 252 of 410 attempts for 3,076 yards and 17 TDs. 6th

RECEIVING—J. Jones, 77 receptions for 662 yards, 8.6 avg. 5 TDs. 4th

INTERCEPTIONS—Watkins, 6 for 0 yards, 0.0 avg. 7th

PUNTING—Black, 76 punts, 41.6 avg., longest 63 yards. 8th

PUNT RETURNS—Martin, 25 for 210 yards, 8.4 avg. 7th

KICKOFF RETURNS—Mandley, 22 for 390 yards, 17.7 avg. 17th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	9	at BUFFALO (N)
	16	at Seattle (N)
	23	CINCINNATI (N)
		at Philadelphia

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8	at Atlanta
	15	DALLAS
	22	at Indianapolis
	29	TAMPA BAY
October	6	at Green Bay
	13	at Washington
	20	SAN FRANCISCO
	27	MIAMI
November	3	at Minnesota
	10	at Chicago
	17	MINNESOTA
	24	at Tampa Bay
	28	NEW YORK JETS
December	8	at New England
	15	GREEN BAY
	22	CHICAGO

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coming off his best season and showing the promise that made him the club's 1981 No. 1 draft choice. At tight end, last year's top choice, David Lewis, will have to improve to beat out third-year man Rob Rubick, a twelfth rounder. Reese McCall is the third tight end.

On the offensive line, injuries to left tackle Rich Strenger and center Steve Mott prompted Rogers' need for offensive linemen in the draft. If Strenger recuperates from a knee injury, he will compete with Brown on the left side. Keith Dorney is solid on the right and Don Greco and Chris Dieterich are the incumbents at guard. Glover will push Mott, who is recovering from an ankle injury. Don Laster, Larry Lee, Homer Elias, Amos Fowler, and David Jones will fight for backup jobs.

"To be honest with you, defense was a priority in the first two rounds of the draft," said Rogers. "But certain things occur, and you have to do what you have to do."

Two things that occurred were the grabbing of linebackers Chris Doleman and Duane Bickett before the Lions had a chance to pick. So while Brown and Glover will find employment in Detroit without any problem, they can't help a defense that finished 17th in the league, 21st against the pass. Rogers' idea of repair is to take his best defensive player, perennial all-pro tackle Doug English, and



JOE FERGUSON

change his position. In Rogers' 3-4 system, English will become a nose tackle. This should make opposing offensive guards quite happy and make English quite sad. But Rogers assures: "There's a lot more in the media about Doug English playing nose tackle than there is in Doug English."

To coordinate the defense, Rogers hired former Tampa Bay defensive coach Wayne Fontes, who has the advantage of knowing personnel throughout the division. His reputation as a coach is reflected in the toughness of Tampa Bay's 3-4 defense. Other position switches could include moving Curtis Green from tackle to end and Mike Cofer from end to linebacker. As a linebacker, the mobile 6-4, 245-pound Cofer could become a force. William Gay, a former tackle who didn't play well as a left end, will play right end.

Outside linebacker Garry Cobb is scheduled to move inside next to Ken Fantetti, the team's most valuable defensive player. Jimmy Williams will move from left to right outside



KEITH DORNEY



JAMES JONES

linebacker, providing Cofer can make it at right linebacker and the Lions can afford to keep Cofer from rushing the passer. Nickel linebacker Roosevelt Barnes and draft choices James Johnson of San Diego State, Kevin Hancock of Baylor, and June James of Texas will compete for playing time.

The Lions want better play out of right cornerback Bruce McNorton and safety William Graham. Rookie Tony Staten and veteran Demetrious Johnson could push. Left corner Bobby Watkins and safety Alvin Hall return.

Eddie Murray's streak of extra points remains alive at 153. He made 20 of 27 field goals. Punter Mike Black could be inspired to improve under his college coach, Rogers. The Lions need considerable improvement in punt and kickoff returns and coverage.

LIONS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	NFL exp	college
68	Black, Steve	T	6-3	260	25	2	Oregon
54	Barnes, Roosevelt	LB	6-2	228	27	4	Purdue
11	Black, Michael	P	6-1	197	24	3	Arizona St.
80	Bland, Carl	WR	5-11	182	24	2	Virginia Union
89	Chadwick, Jeff	WR	6-3	190	25	3	Grand Valley
53	Cobb, Garry	LB	6-2	227	28	7	Southern Cal
66	Cofer, Michael	DE	6-4	245	25	3	Tennessee
50	Curley, August	LB	6-2	226	25	3	Southern Cal
44	D'Addio, Dave	FB	6-1	229	24	2	Maryland
72	Dieterich, Chris	G	6-3	260	27	6	N.C. St.
93	Dodge, Kirk	LB	6-1	231	23	2	UNLV
58	Doig, Steve	LB	6-2	245	25	4	New Hampshire
70	Dorney, Keith	T	6-5	265	28	7	Penn State
61	Elias, Homer	G	6-2	255	30	8	Tennessee St.
78	English, Doug	DT	6-5	258	32	10	Texas
57	Fantetti, Ken	LB	6-1	232	28	7	Wyoming
	Ferguson, Joe	QB	6-1	195	35	13	Arkansas
65	Fowler, Amos	C	6-2	253	29	8	Southern Miss
26	Frizzell, William	CB	6-2	198	23	2	N.C. Central
79	Gay, William	DE	6-4	257	30	8	Southern Cal
33	Graham, William	S	5-11	191	26	4	Texas
67	Greco, Don	G	6-2	265	26	4	Western Illinois
62	Green, Curtis	DT	6-3	258	28	5	Alabama St.
35	Hall, Alvin	CB	5-10	184	27	5	Miami (OH)
17	Hipole, Eric	QB	6-2	198	28	6	Utah State
31	Jenkins, Kenneth	HB	5-8	185	26	3	Bucknell
21	Johnson, Demetrious	S	5-11	190	24	3	Missouri
51	Jones, David	C	6-2	257	24	2	Texas
30	Jones, James	FB	6-2	229	24	3	Florida
92	King, Angelo	LB	6-0	222	27	5	S.C. State
73	Laster, Don	T	6-4	278	27	3	Tennessee St.
43	Lattimer, Albert	CB	5-11	181	28	4	Clemson
64	Lee, Larry	G	6-2	263	26	5	UCLA
87	Lewis, David	TE	6-3	235	24	2	California
14	Machurek, Mike	QB	6-0	205	25	4	Idaho State
82	Mandley, Pete	WR	5-9	191	24	2	Northern Arizona
83	Martin, Robbie	WR	5-8	178	27	5	Cal Poly-SLO
81	McCall, Reese	TE	6-6	245	29	8	Auburn
29	McNorton, Bruce	CB	5-10	175	26	4	Georgetown Col.
36	Meade, Mike	FB	5-10	227	25	4	Penn St.
74	Monson, Dee	DT	6-2	241	25	2	Nevada Reno
63	Moss, Martin	DE	6-3	255	27	4	UCLA
52	Mott, Steve	C	6-2	265	24	2	Alabama
3	Murray, Ed	K	5-9	175	29	6	Tulane
86	Nichols, Mark	WR	6-1	208	26	5	San Jose State
84	Rubick, Rob	TE	6-2	234	25	4	Grand Valley
20	Sims, Billy	HB	5-11	212	30	5	Oklahoma
71	Strenger, Rich	T	6-7	276	25	2	Michigan
39	Thompson, Leonard	WR	5-11	192	33	11	Oklahoma
38	Thompson, Vince	FB	6-0	235	28	3	Villanova
27	Watkins, Bobby	CB	5-10	184	25	4	SW Texas St.
76	Williams, Eric	DT	6-4	260	23	2	Washington St.
59	Williams, Jimmy	LB	6-2	230	25	4	Nebraska
18	Witkowski, John	QB	6-1	205	23	2	Columbia
77	Wright, Cedric	DT	6-2	260	24	2	Memphis St.

DRAFTTEES

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Brown, Lomas	OT	6-4	282	Florida
2	Glover, Kevin	C	6-2	262	Maryland
3	Johnson, James	LB	6-2	235	San Diego St.
4	Hancock, Kevin	LB	6-2	224	Baylor
5	McIntosh, Joe	RB	5-11	190	N.C. St.
6	Short, Stan	OG	6-4	270	Penn St.
7	Staten, Tony	DB	5-10	190	Angelo St.
8	Caldwell, Scotty	RB	5-10	199	Texas-Arlington
9	James, June	LB	6-1	218	Texas
10	Beauford, Clayton	WR	5-10	173	Auburn
11	Harris, Kevin	DB	6-0	196	Georgia
12	Weaver, Mike	OG	6-1	325	Georgia

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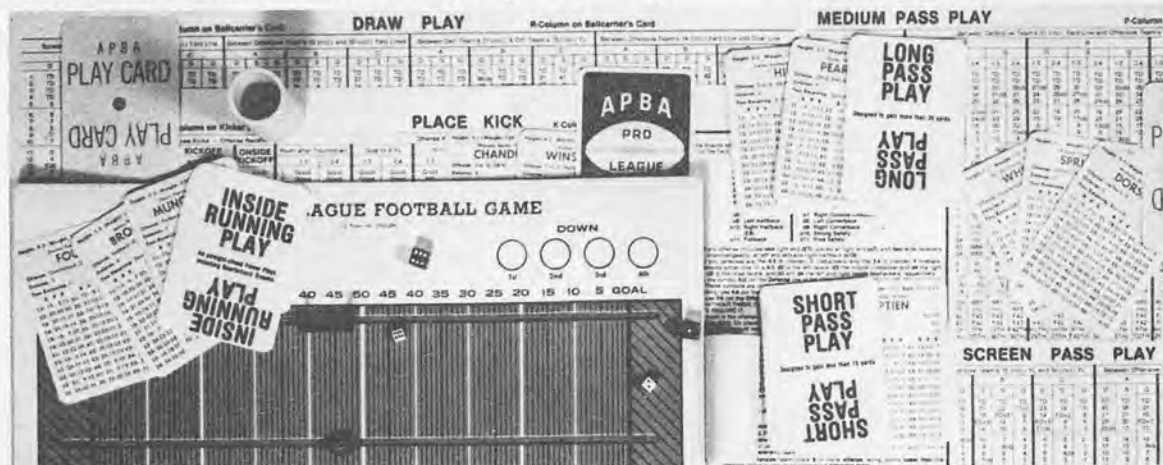
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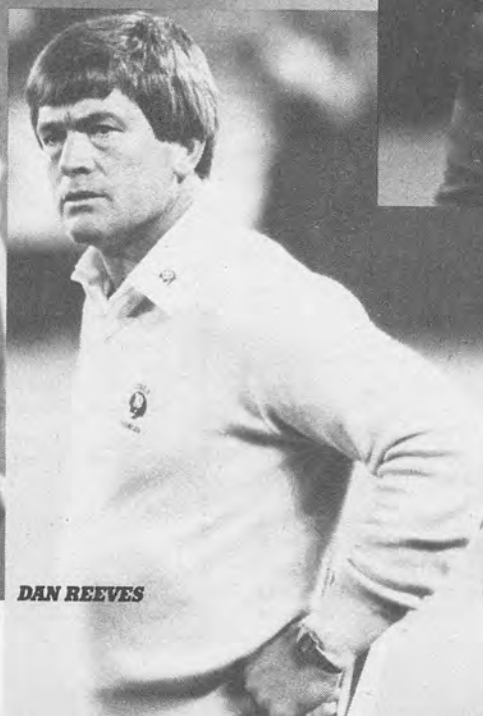
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CONFERENCE

by **LARRY FELSER**
BUFFALO NEWS

● The American Football Conference has Dan Marino, Dave Krieg, John Elway, Tony Eason, and Bill Kenney, but bright young quarterbacks are not what dominates the conference. It also has Marcus Allen, Freeman McNeil, Earnest Jackson, Sammy Winder, and Greg Bell, but productive young running backs are not what dominates the AFC.

Coaches dominate the conference, whose 1985 championship will be won by a team which is led by a head coach who has won the Super Bowl or by a coach who wins by virtual habit. Of the five AFC playoff teams last year, three were coached by men who had directed their teams into the Super Bowl (Don Shula of Miami, Chuck Noll of Pittsburgh, and Tom Flores of the Los Angeles Raiders), one by a man who produced nine playoff teams in 12 years as a head coach (Chuck Knox of Seattle), and one by a rising star (Dan Reeves of Denver).

You can draft, trade, or do a mixture of both; play with veterans, kids, or a blend; you can emphasize defense, offense, or a balance. But the surest way to succeed is to put your team in the hands of a man who is a proven winner in pro football. It pays off in more than victories, too. The inclusion of a Don Shula or a Chuck Noll on a team's list of assets can increase the worth of a franchise by millions.

Not much should change in 1985. The winningest coaches should win frequently again. The wild-card playoff entrants should be the Steelers and the Raiders. The prediction here is for Miami to avenge last year's defeat by beating San Francisco in Super Bowl XX.

One of the Super Bowl coaches, Noll, is in danger of being outgunned by Cincinnati's Sam Wyche, another coaching comer, who now has rookie receiver Eddie Brown to pair with Cris Collinsworth. The Bengals closed with a rush in '84.

The rest of the AFC coaches, with the exception of one special case—San Diego's Don Coryell, who is attempting to recapture his reputation after two sub-par seasons—are still trying to prove they can win in the National Football League. In some cases, they are trying to prove they can be head coaches in the NFL.

Some of the conference awards should end up this way:

- *Most valuable player*: Dan Marino. As Marino goes, so go the Dolphins.
- *Rushing champion*: Freeman McNeil. The Jets will be cautious while Ken O'Brien learns to play quarterback.
- *Passing champion*: Dan Marino. Enough said.
- *Receiving champion*: Ozzie Newsome, Cleveland tight end. Whoever plays quarterback, Ozzie is his safe harbor.
- *Coach of the year*: Sam Wyche, since Noll never gets it.
- *Offensive rookie of the year*: Ethan Horton, Kansas City back. He fills a desperate need.
- *Defensive rookie of the year*: Bruce Smith, Buffalo defensive end. Sacks attract attention.

DON SHULA

PREDICTIONS

EAST

1. Miami Dolphins
2. New England Patriots
3. New York Jets
4. Indianapolis Colts
5. Buffalo Bills

CENTRAL

1. Cincinnati Bengals
2. Pittsburgh Steelers
3. Cleveland Browns
4. Houston Oilers

WEST

1. Seattle Seahawks
2. Los Angeles Raiders
3. Kansas City Chiefs
4. Denver Broncos
5. San Diego Chargers

THE ALL-AFC TEAM

OFFENSE

WR—Mark Duper, Miami
WR—Louis Lipps, Pittsburgh
TE—Ozzie Newsome, Cleveland
T—Anthony Munoz, Cincinnati
T—Brian Holloway, New England
G—Mike Munchak, Houston
G—Roy Foster, Miami
C—Dwight Stephenson, Miami
QB—Dan Marino, Miami
RB—Marcus Allen, Los Angeles
RB—Freeman McNeil, New York
PK—Norm Johnson, Seattle

DEFENSE

E—Art Still, Kansas City
E—Howie Long, Los Angeles
NT—Bill Maas, Kansas City
OLB—Rod Martin, Los Angeles
ILB—Robin Cole, Pittsburgh
ILB—Eugene Marve, Buffalo
OLB—Clay Matthews, Cleveland
CB—Mike Haynes, Los Angeles
CB—Lester Hayes, Los Angeles
SS—Kenny Easley, Seattle
FS—Don Rogers, Cleveland
P—Reggie Roby, Miami



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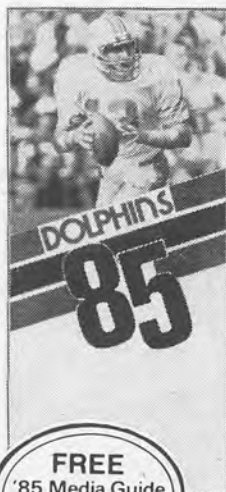
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AFC east

MIAMI DOLPHINS

Shortcomings do not get corrected unless there is an admission that they exist. The Miami Dolphins aren't going to kid anyone about Super Bowl XIX. They admitted their shortcomings on draft day, when they made Florida running back Lorenzo Hampton their No. 1 choice, then followed with four straight defensive selections. The San Francisco 49ers indecently exposed the Dolphins lack of a balanced offense and shortage of muscle on defense when they drubbed them last Super Sunday. The Dolphins reflected upon the loss and decided to do something about it.

Hampton is not a superstar back, but he is strong, determined, and fights for that extra yardage. He can also catch the ball. Don Shula has built potent running attacks around a lot less. "Potent" is the operative word here. The Dolphins' running attack doesn't have to be overwhelming or anything close to that. What Shula seeks is a leavening for the most explosive passing attack in the NFL.

Dan Marino, in his second pro season, was virtually unlawful: an unprecedented 48 touchdown passes, 5,084 yards passing, 362 completions, a 64.2 percent completion average, 9.01-yard average completion, and a league-leading efficiency rating of 108.9. This was from a young player who is likely to become nothing but better. The Super Bowl, in which he was under the heaviest pressure of his pro career, was a smudge on his almost-flawless reputation, but correcting that seems more a matter of putting balance into the Miami attack than anything else. "I believe the last Super Bowl is going to make him hungrier to be the quarterback of a championship team this season," says Shula.

Marino throws the ball to a pair of Pro Bowl receivers, "Mark II," Mark Duper and Mark Clayton. Duper roared to a great start, slumped, then finished with a flash, catching 71 passes for 1,306 yards, an 18.4-yard average, and eight touchdowns. Clayton just roared, catching 73 passes for 1,389 yards, a 19.0-yard average, and an NFL record 18 touchdowns. There is one worry: Clayton is a mercurial, temperamental player whose own personality could be his downfall.

Tony Nathan, the veteran back, was a large part of the passing game, with 61 catches for 579 yards. Nat Moore, the veteran, caught 43 passes for six touchdowns in specialty situations. The tight end, a hybrid of Dan Johnson, Bruce Hardy, and Joe Rose, accounted for 74 catches and 10 touchdowns. Johnson could play far more as the running game becomes more robust, mostly because he's the best blocker of the three. "I think now is the time that his career will take off," says Shula.

Judging solely on the Super Bowl, one might expect that the Dolphins need some sort of shakeup to insure that Marino isn't treated as rudely on a regular basis. But in truth, the Dolphins have one of the better lines. Keeping the defense honest with a running

DAN MARINO

DOLPHINS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Clayton, 108 points on 18 touchdowns . . . T3rd
RUSHING—Bennett, 606 yards on 144 carries, 4.2 avg., 7 TDs . . . 14th
PASSING—Marino, 362 of 564 attempts for 5,084 yards and 48 TDs . . . 1st
RECEIVING—Clayton, 73 receptions for 1,389 yards, 19.0 avg., 18 TDs . . . 5th
INTERCEPTIONS—G. Blackwood, 6 for 169 yards, 28.2 avg . . . 6th
PUNTING—Roby, 51 punts, 44.7 avg., longest 69 yards . . . 2nd
PUNT RETURNS—Walker, 21 for 169 yards, 8.0 avg. . . 9th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Walker, 29 for 617 yards, 21.3 avg. . . 9th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 MINNESOTA (N)
17 BUFFALO (N)
24 At Los Angeles Raiders (N)
30 At Atlanta (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September	8	At Houston	28-10
	15	INDIANAPOLIS	44-7
	22	KANSAS CITY	—
	29	At Denver	—
October	6	PITTSBURGH	31-7
	14	At New York Jets (N)	31-17
	20	TAMPA BAY	—
	27	At Detroit	—
November	3	At New England	44-24
	10	NEW YORK JETS	28-17
	17	At Indianapolis	35-17
	24	At Buffalo	21-17
December	2	CHICAGO (N)	—
	8	At Green Bay	—
	16	NEW ENGLAND (N)	28-7
	22	BUFFALO	38-7



JOE CARTER



NATE MOORE

attack should help, too. Jon Giesler has matured into a tackle of first rank. Cleveland Green took over on the other side from Eric Laakso, who missed most of the season due to a knee injury, and played strongly. Guard Ed Newman, the most seasoned lineman and a team leader, made the Pro Bowl; the other guard, Roy Foster, was a Pro Bowl alternate in his first full year as a starter after taking over from Bob Kuechenberg, who was finally forced into retirement by a serious eye injury. The top man in the line is Dwight Stephenson, who Shula thinks is the best center in the league. Marino was sacked only 13 times in 16 regular-season games, a statistic he helps himself with because of his quick release.

The running game has some incumbents who can fill in around Hampton. Woody Bennett gained 606 yards and scored seven touchdowns. Nathan had 558 yards in 118 carries and Joe Carter averaged five yards on 100 carries in his rookie season.

One likely change in the offense may be in the place-kicking. Uwe von Schamann, long a Dolphin mainstay, connected on only nine field goals in 19 tries and missed four extra points. He didn't kick a field goal beyond 37 yards. He didn't kick very well in 1983, either. As a remedy, Miami drafted Fuad Reveiz of Tennessee. Punter Reggie Roby was all-pro but Shula was openly critical of his failures in the Super Bowl.

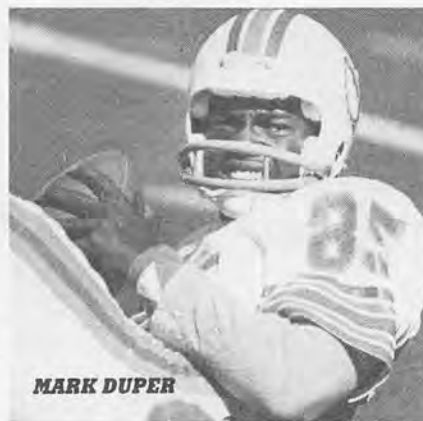
Defensively, the Dolphins began the season impressively enough under new coordinator Chuck Studley but slumped badly later on. They were caved in by the 49ers. "We need to be better defensively than we were last year in order to win," admits Shula.

The Dolphins could be better in the line merely with more consistency by Doug Betters, a Pro Bowler the season before last, and good health to ends Kim Bokamper and Mike Charles and nose tackle Bob Baumhower. Baumhower's knee injury was especially vexing against Joe Montana, but he had off-season surgery to correct it. Betters had 14 sacks, but Bokamper, Charles, and Baumhower had only nine among them.

The key man in the linebacking unit, the most flawed defensive group, may be Jackie Shipp, who was not a factor as a rookie. Allowed to freelance at the University of Oklahoma, Shipp didn't have a clue about the Dolphins' disciplined defense after they made him their No. 1 draft choice. He needs to be a quick learner now. A.J. Duhe has suffered so many serious injuries the last two years, Miami followers are about to write him off. The most consistent veteran is Bob Brudzinski. Jay Brophy is able to handle the tough, heavy-duty stuff inside. Charles Boswer is an accomplished blitz, but his work in other areas falls off. Mark Brown has talent but is not the cerebral player the Dolphin defense requires.

If Don McNeal could stay healthy for a full season, the Dolphins would have one of the better sets of cornerbacks, with William Judson on the opposite side. The Blackwoods, Glenn and Lyle, remain among the toughest pair of safeties in the entire league, but now Mike Kozlowski, basically a situation player, may be ready to challenge one of them for a starting job.

The top defensive draftees were Iowa tackle George Little, Northwestern linebacker Alex Moyer, and Texas-El Paso defensive back Mike Smith.



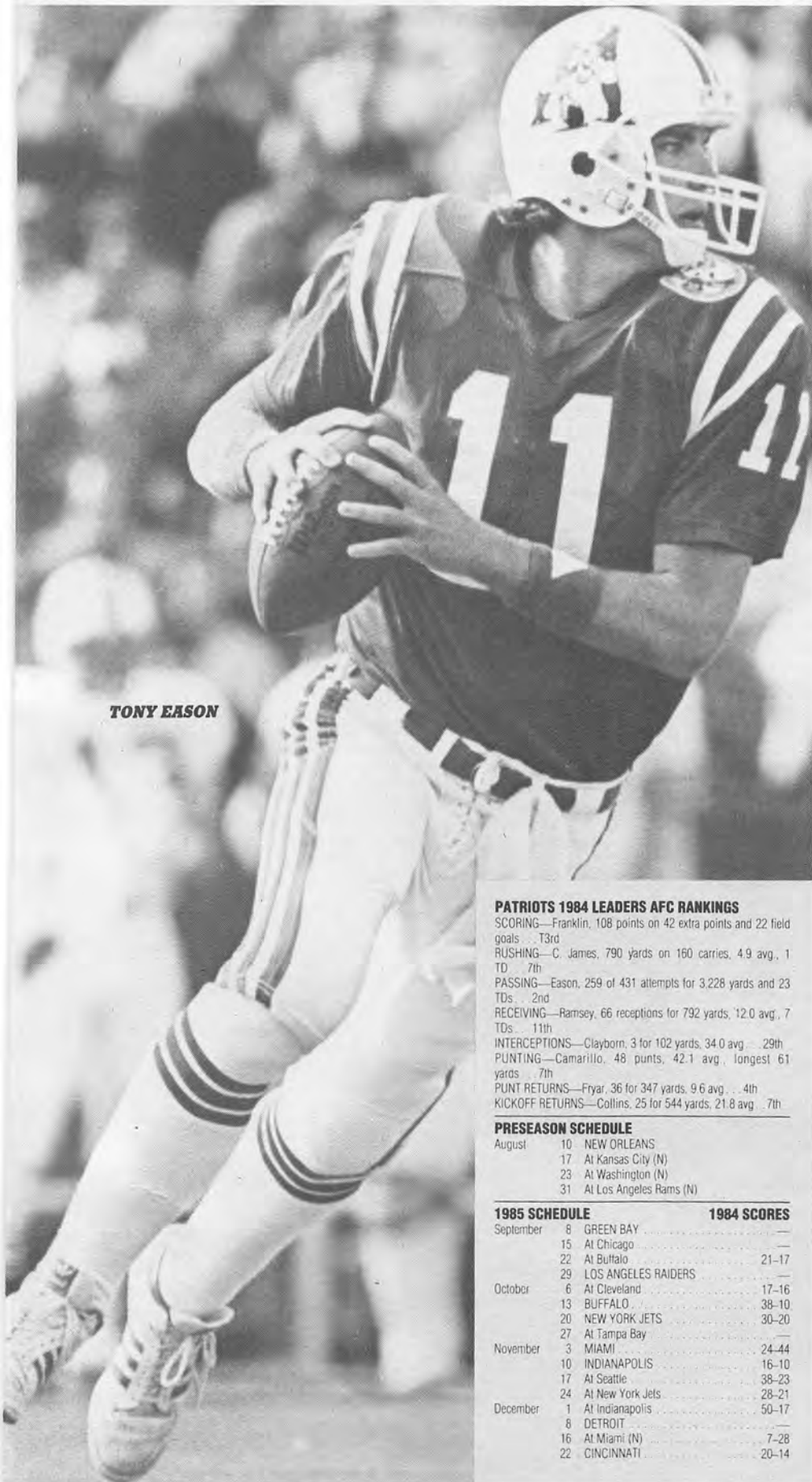
MARK DUPER

DOLPHINS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	NFL exp	college
70	Barnett, Bill	DE	6-4	260	29	6 Nebraska
73	Baumhower, Bob	DT	6-5	265	30	9 Alabama
34	Bennett, Woody	FB	6-2	225	30	7 Miami
78	Benson, Charles	DE	6-3	267	25	3 Baylor
75	Betters, Doug	DE	6-7	265	29	8 Nevada-Reno
47	Blackwood, Glenn	S	6-0	190	28	7 Texas
42	Blackwood, Lyle	S	6-1	190	34	13 TCU
58	Bokamper, Kim	DE	6-6	255	31	9 San Jose St
56	Boswer, Charles	LB	6-3	235	26	4 Duke
53	Brophy, Jay	LB	6-3	233	25	2 Miami
43	Brown, Bud	S	6-0	194	24	2 S. Mississippi
51	Brown, Mark	LB	6-2	225	24	3 Purdue
59	Brudzinski, Bob	LB	6-4	223	30	9 Ohio St.
23	Carter, Joe	RB	5-11	198	23	2 Alabama
71	Charles, Mike	DT	6-4	285	23	3 Syracuse
76	Clark, Steve	G	6-4	255	25	4 Utah
83	Clayton, Mark	WR	5-9	175	24	3 Louisville
77	Duhe, A.J.	LB	6-4	235	30	9 LSU
85	Duper, Mark	WR	5-9	187	26	4 NW La.
61	Foster, Roy	G	6-4	275	25	4 Southern Cal
37	Franklin, Andra	FB	5-10	225	26	4 Nebraska
79	Giesler, Jon	T	6-5	260	29	7 Michigan
74	Green, Cleveland	T	6-3	262	28	7 Southern
84	Hardy, Bruce	TE	6-5	232	29	8 Arizona St.
88	Heflin, Vince	WR	6-0	185	26	4 Central St.
90	Hester, Ron	LB	6-2	222	26	2 Florida St.
31	Hill, Eddie	RB	6-2	210	28	7 Memphis State
11	Jensen, Jim	WR	6-4	215	27	5 Boston U.
87	Johnson, Dan	TE	6-3	240	25	3 Iowa St.
46	Johnson, Pete	FB	6-0	250	31	9 Ohio St.
49	Judson, William	CB	6-1	190	26	4 S.C. St.
40	Kozlowski, Mike	S	6-1	198	29	6 Colorado
68	Laakso, Eric	T	6-4	260	29	8 Tulane
38	Landry, Ron	FB	6-2	225	23	1 McNeese St.
44	Lankford, Paul	CB	6-2	184	27	4 Penn St.
72	Lee, Ronnie	G	6-4	265	29	7 Baylor
13	Marino, Dan	QB	6-4	214	24	3 Pittsburgh
28	McNeal, Don	CB	5-11	192	27	5 Alabama
89	Moore, Nat	WR	5-9	188	34	12 Florida
22	Nathan, Tony	RB	6-0	206	29	7 Alabama
64	Newman, Ed	G	6-2	255	34	13 Duke
55	Rhone, Earnie	LB	6-2	224	32	10 Henderson
4	Roby, Reggie	P	6-2	243	24	3 Iowa
80	Rose, Joe	TE	6-3	230	28	6 California
50	Shipp, Jackie	LB	6-2	236	23	2 Oklahoma
52	Shiver, Sanders	LB	6-2	235	30	10 Carson-Newman
45	Sowell, Robert	CB	5-11	175	24	3 Howard
57	Stephenson, Dwight C.	C	6-2	255	28	6 Alabama
10	Strock, Don	QB	6-5	220	35	12 Virginia Tech
54	Thomas, Rodell	LB	6-2	225	27	5 Alabama St.
60	Toews, Jeff	OL	6-3	255	28	7 Washington
32	Vigorito, Tom	RB	5-10	190	26	3 Virginia
5	von Schamann, Uwe	PK	6-1	185	29	7 Oklahoma
41	Walker, Fulton	CB	5-11	196	27	5 West Virginia

DRAFTEES

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Hampton, Lorenzo	RB	5-11	205	Florida
3	Little, George	DT	6-3	275	Iowa
3	Moyer, Alex	LB	6-2	220	Northwestern
4	Smith, Mike	DB	6-0	176	Texas-El Paso
4	Dellenbach, Jeff	OT	6-5	285	Wisconsin
6	Shorthose, George	WR	6-0	201	Missouri
6	Davenport, Ron	RB	6-1	235	Louisville
7	Reveiz, Fuad	K	6-0	221	Tennessee
8	Sharp, Dan	TE	6-2	229	TCU
9	Hinds, Adam	DB	6-2	199	Oklahoma St.
10	Pendleton, Mike	DB	6-0	189	Indiana
11	Jones, Mike	RB	5-10	190	Tulane
12	Noble, Ray	DB	6-0	170	California



TONY EASON

PATRIOTS 1984 LEADERS AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Franklin, 108 points on 42 extra points and 22 field goals . . . 3rd
 RUSHING—C. James, 790 yards on 160 carries, 4.9 avg., 1 TD . . . 7th
 PASSING—Eason, 259 of 431 attempts for 3,228 yards and 23 TDs . . . 2nd
 RECEIVING—Ramsey, 66 receptions for 792 yards, 12.0 avg., 7 TDs . . . 11th
 INTERCEPTIONS—Clayborn, 3 for 102 yards, 34.0 avg. . . 29th
 PUNTING—Camarillo, 48 punts, 42.1 avg., longest 61 yards . . . 7th
 PUNT RETURNS—Fryar, 36 for 347 yards, 9.6 avg. . . 4th
 KICKOFF RETURNS—Collins, 25 for 544 yards, 21.8 avg. . . 7th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 NEW ORLEANS
 17 At Kansas City (N)
 23 At Washington (N)
 31 At Los Angeles Rams (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8 GREEN BAY	—
	15 At Chicago	—
	22 At Buffalo	21-17
	29 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS	—
October	6 At Cleveland	17-16
	13 BUFFALO	38-10
	20 NEW YORK JETS	30-20
	27 At Tampa Bay	—
November	3 MIAMI	24-44
	10 INDIANAPOLIS	16-10
	17 At Seattle	38-23
	24 At New York Jets	28-21
December	1 At Indianapolis	50-17
	8 DETROIT	—
	16 At Miami (N)	7-28
	22 CINCINNATI	20-14

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

The Patriots have a lot of good players, a lot of versatility, and a balanced attack. What they don't have is a defined personality. The Pats, including their front-office strategists, jump on their horse and ride off in all directions.

Once they had a head coach, Ron Erhardt, who was deemed too easygoing, so they fired him. In his place they hired Ron Meyer, who had more nit-picking rules than the swimming pool at a Florida retirement community. Meyer was Mr. Discipline. Unfortunately, he was also Mr. Hardhead. The Pats fired him in the midst of last season when he created a crisis over football authority. The team was 5-3 then and appeared headed for the playoffs.

In Meyer's place came Raymond Berry, the Hall of Fame pass receiver. Out of football since 1981, Berry is also a coach with a live-and-let-live philosophy. An outspoken, born-again Christian, he seems to be putting an enormous amount of faith in both the power of prayer and the notion that God, somehow, is a Patriot fan. His analyses of what went wrong at the end, causing the 9-7 Pats to miss the playoffs, was not very satisfactory to those seeking a more reassuring reason than faith for believing in the team's future.

"I don't have the answers," said Berry.

One place they have to start looking for them is in the protection not afforded Tony Eason, their promising new quarterback. Eason, in his first season as No. 1, finished third in the NFL in efficiency rating, behind the two Super Bowl quarterbacks, San Francisco's Joe Montana and Miami's Dan Marino. His interception ratio, 1.9 percent (8 in 431 passes) was the lowest in the league. He threw for 3,228 yards and 23 touchdowns. He also was sacked 35 times in the last five games of the season. In the finale, a 16-10 victory over the Indianapolis Colts, Eason went down seven times. "I finally gave up," admitted Patriots offensive coordinator Lew Erber. "I decided 'we'll just run the ball.'" With a quarterback of Eason's ability in the lineup, the Pats can't go to that strategy very often.

Eason isn't the only high-powered weapon in the passing game. Irving Fryar, the prize of last year's draft, should be sprung on the opposition this year. The ex-Nebraska star was hindered by an early injury last season. H-back Derrick Ramsey caught 66 passes and scored seven touchdowns. Young Stephen Starring caught 46 passes and scored four touchdowns. Cedric Jones and Clarence Weathers are dangerous. And Stanley Morgan is still around. He represents 38 catches for an 18.7-yard per-catch average and five touchdowns, but the Pats have to decide whether Morgan and John Hannah, the great guard, are worth the trouble. Morgan has turned off a large segment of the fans and a significant chunk of the Pats with his whining. The front office and coaches have to determine whether his talent is worth it. Hannah has seen so many ups and downs, changes and alterations during his time with the Pats, that he has become a professional skeptic. That can be infectious in the dressing room.

Strategically, there is another crisis. Under Meyer, the Pats became a one-back offense. That one-back right now is Craig James, the ex-SMU star who defected from the USFL to find happiness in the New England backfield. Ironically, he did not become a major factor with the Pats until after Meyer, his college coa-

ch, was fired. In the one-back offense, two other first-rate runners ride the timber. One of them, Tony Collins, was a Pro Bowler two years ago. The other is tough, short-yardage specialist Mosi Tatupu. James ran for 790 yards, Collins for 550, and Tatupu for 553.

Ostensibly, the Pats still have a formidable line, with Pro Bowlers such as Hannah and tackle Brian Holloway as well as experienced guard Ron Wooten and tackle Daryl Haley. But everything seemed to sag when center Pete Brock was injured last year. Worried about Brock, the Pats used their No. 1 draft pick to take Trevor Matich of Brigham Young, who protected Robbie Bosco and Steve Young in college. He is big enough to function in a running game.

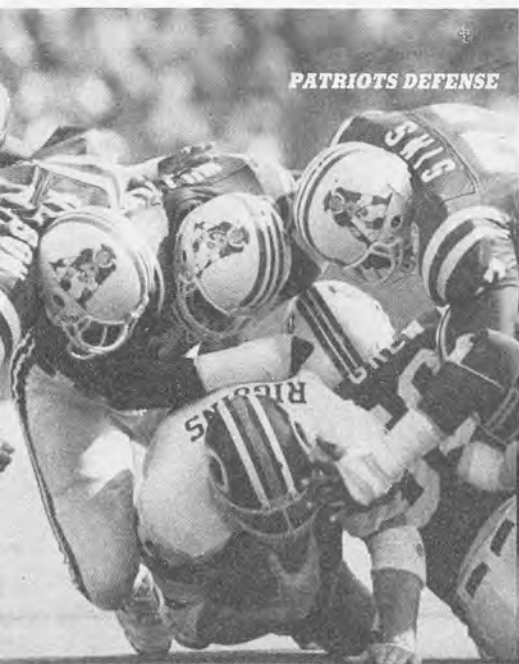
There were times last season when the defensive line was dismal, but the Pats have a sterling chance to get well in that area. All they

have to do is keep nose tackle Lester Williams healthy and get immediate production from rookie Garin Veris of Stanford at defensive end. The other end, Kenneth Sims, hasn't turned out to be the superstar the Pats had hoped, but he's now a decent player.

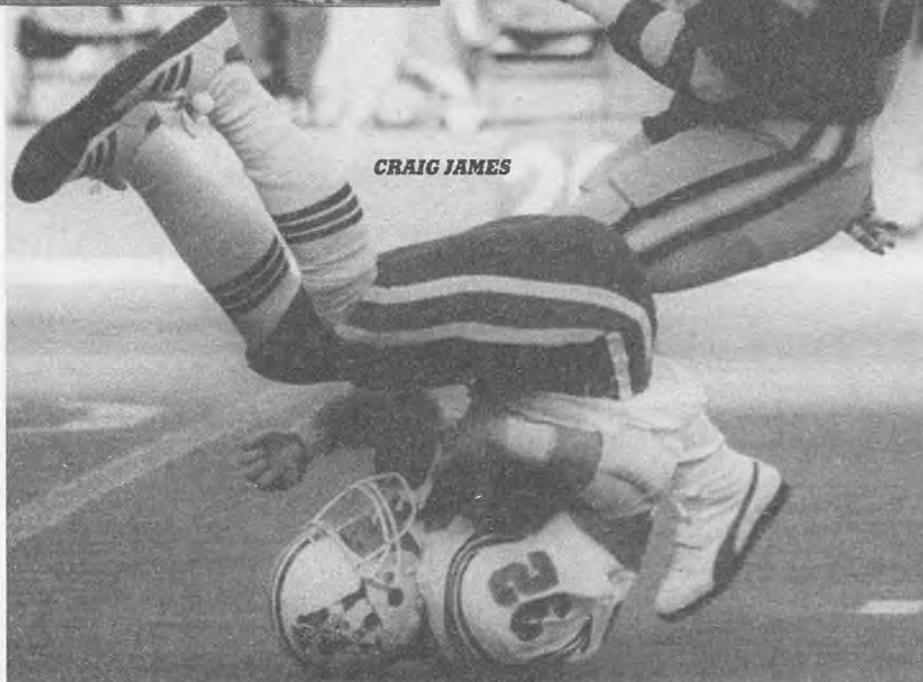
The linebacking could improve if Clayton Weishuhn comes back from an injury and Johnny Rembert and Brian Ingram develop. Veterans such as Steve Nelson, Larry McGrew, Don Blackman, and the blitzing Andre Tippett are solid.

The Pats still haven't replaced Mike Haynes at left cornerback. Ronnie Lippett became the game plan for most opponents, and when Ernest Gibson replaced him, it didn't make much difference. The Pats used two high picks to draft defensive backs—Jim Bowman of Central Michigan and Audrey McMillan of Houston—but most scouts projected both as safeties. It could be that there will be some major juggling before the secondary is settled. Raymond Clayborn is the constant at right corner. Roland James seems set at strong safety, but Rick Sanford lost his free-safety job to Fred Marion. That could change, or Sanford, who once played corner, could be moved again.

Punter Rich Camarillo played only half the season due to injury, but still managed a 42.1-yard gross average and a 34.7 net. Tony Franklin's career was rejuvenated with the Pats. He connected on 22 of 28 field goals and didn't miss any of his 42 extra points.



PATRIOTS DEFENSE



CRAIG JAMES

PATRIOTS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	NFL exp	college
85	Adams, Julius	DE	6-3	265	37	14	Texas Southern
46	Andreoli, John	ILB	6-2	230	23	2	Holy Cross
55	Blackmon, Don	OLB	6-3	235	27	5	Tulsa
58	Brock, Pete	OC	6-5	270	31	10	Colorado
3	Camarillo, Rich	P	5-11	191	26	5	Washington
26	Clayborn, Ray	CB	6-0	186	30	9	Texas
33	Collins, Tony	RB	5-11	212	26	5	East Carolina
92	Creswell, Smiley	DE	6-4	251	23	2	Michigan St.
91	Crump, George	DE	6-4	260	26	3	East Carolina
87	Dawson, Lin	TE	6-3	240	26	5	N.C. St.
47	Dombroski, Paul	SS	6-0	185	29	6	Lindfield
11	Eason, Tony	QB	6-4	212	26	3	Illinois
56	Fairchild, Paul	OG	6-4	270	23	2	Kansas
1	Franklin, Tony	K	5-8	182	31	9	Texas A&M
80	Fryar, Irving	WR	6-0	200	23	2	Nebraska
42	Gibson, Ernest	CB	5-10	185	23	2	Furman
59	Golden, Tim	ILB	6-1	220	26	4	Florida
14	Grogan, Steve	QB	6-4	210	32	11	Kansas St.
68	Haley, Daryl	OT	6-4	275	24	4	Utah
73	Hannah, John	OG	6-3	265	34	13	Alabama
40	Hawthorne, Greg	WR/BB	6-3	225	29	8	Baylor
70	Henson, Luther	NT	6-0	275	26	4	Ohio St.
76	Holloway, Brian	OT	6-7	285	26	6	Stanford
51	Ingram, Brian	OLB	6-4	235	26	4	Tennessee
32	James, Craig	RB	6-0	215	24	2	SMU
38	James, Roland	SS	6-2	191	27	6	Tennessee
83	Jones, Cedric	WR	6-0	184	25	4	Duke
19	Kerrigan, Mike	QB	6-3	205	25	3	Northwestern
22	Lee, Keith	SS	5-11	193	28	5	Colorado St.
42	Lippett, Ronnie	CB	5-11	180	25	3	Miami
31	Marion, Fred	FS	6-2	191	26	4	Miami
50	McGrew, Larry	OLB	6-5	233	28	5	Southern Cal
23	McSwain, Rod	CB	6-1	198	23	2	Clemson
67	Moore, Steve	OT	6-4	285	25	3	Tennessee St.
86	Morgan, Stanley	WR	5-11	181	30	9	Tennessee
75	Morriss, Guy	OC	6-4	270	35	14	TCU
57	Nelson, Steve	ILB	6-2	230	34	12	N. Dakota St.
98	Owens, Dennis	NT	6-1	258	25	4	N.C. St.
88	Ramsey, Derrick	TC	6-5	235	29	8	Kentucky
12	Ramsey, Tom	QB	6-0	190	23	2	UCLA
52	Rembert, Johnny	ILB	6-3	234	24	3	Clemson
95	Reynolds, Ed	ILB	6-5	230	24	3	Virginia
41	Robinson, Bo	RB	6-2	235	30	8	W. Texas St.
65	Rogers, Doug	DE	6-5	270	25	4	Stanford
25	Sanford, Rick	FS	6-1	192	28	7	South Carolina
77	Sims, Ken	DE	6-5	271	26	4	Texas
81	Starring, Stephen	WR	5-10	172	24	3	McNeese St.
30	Tatupu, Mosi	RB	6-0	227	30	8	Southern Cal
56	Tippett, Andre	OLB	6-3	241	26	4	Iowa
82	Weathers, Clarence	WR	5-9	170	23	3	Delaware St.
24	Weathers, Robert	RB	6-2	222	25	4	Arizona St.
53	Weishuhn, Clayton	ILB	6-2	221	26	4	Angelo St.
45	Williams, Craig	RB	6-1	225	23	2	Lafayette
21	Williams, Derwin	WR	6-0	170	23	2	New Mexico
54	Williams, Ed	OLB	6-4	244	23	2	Texas
44	Williams, Jon	RB	5-9	205	23	2	Penn St.
72	Williams, Lester	NT	6-3	272	26	4	Miami
90	Williams, Toby	DE	6-3	265	25	3	Nebraska
48	Wilson, Darryl	WR	6-0	182	23	2	Tennessee
93	Wingham, David	ILB	6-2	240	23	2	Jackson St.
61	Wooten, Ron	OG	6-4	273	26	4	North Carolina

DRAFTIES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Matich, Trevor	C	6-4	266	BYU
2	Veris, Garin	DE	6-4	245	Stanford
2	Bowman, Jim	DB	6-1	210	Central Michigan
2	Thomas, Ben	DE	6-3	276	Auburn
3	McMillan, Audrey	DB	5-11	186	Houston
4	Toth, Tom	OT	6-6	269	W. Michigan
4	Phelan, Gerard	WR	6-0	184	Boston College
8	Hodge, Milford	DT	6-3	278	Washington St.
11	Lewis, Paul	RB	5-8	197	Boston U.
12	Mumford, Tony	RB	6-0	211	Penn St.



KEN SIMS

NEW YORK JETS

The Jets continue to be haunted by two names which aren't on their roster. One is Walt Michaels, who has been gone for two years. The other is Dan Marino, who never was there. Michaels, now coach of the USFL New Jersey Generals, took the Jets to within one game of the Super Bowl in 1982, then was forced into resignation. The Jets haven't been within a \$45 cab fare of the Super Bowl ever since.

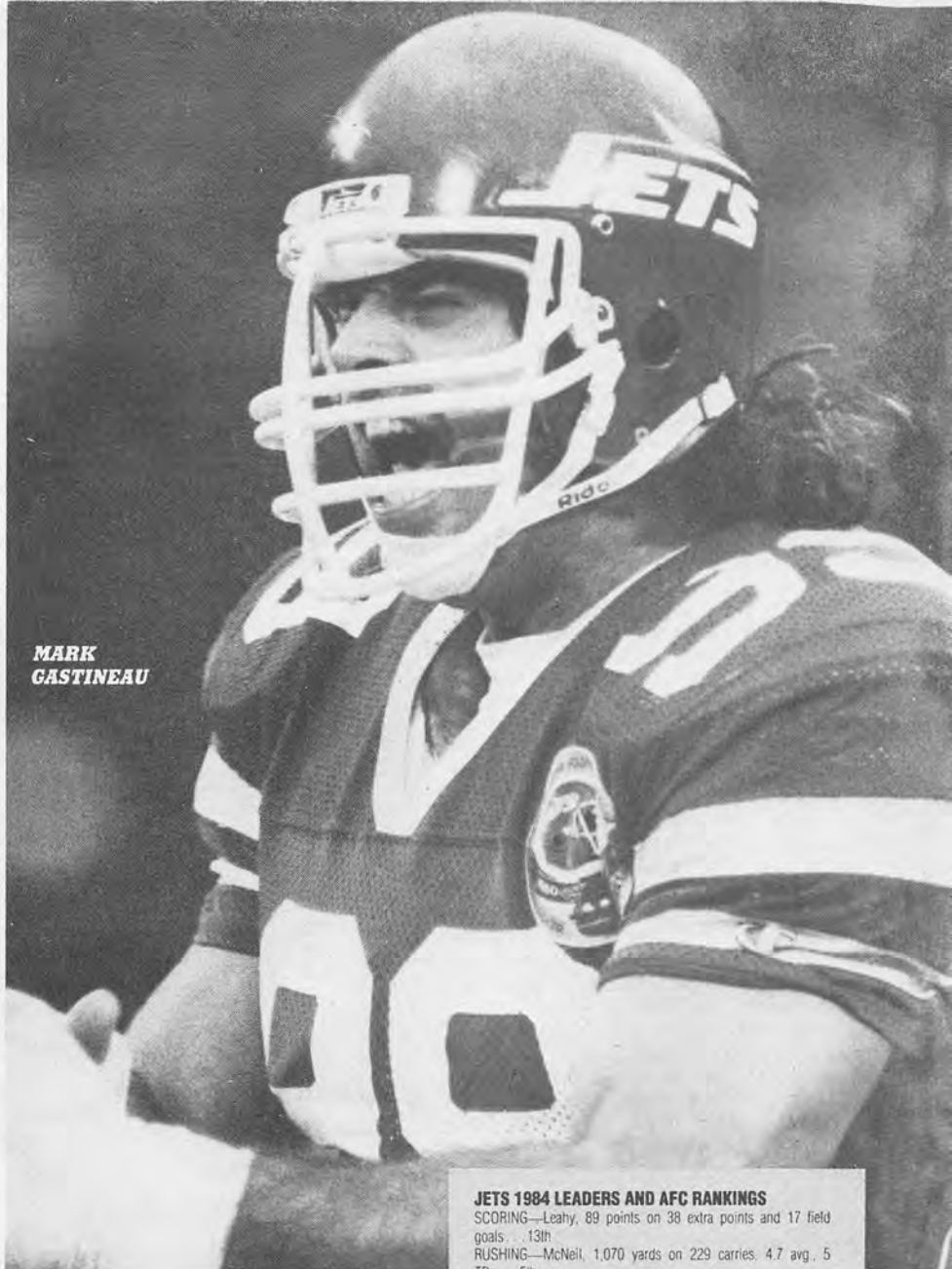
Joe Walton, the man who replaced Michaels, is nearing a crisis in his own career. He threw the Jets off the practice field in a fit of anger during the last week of the season. He insulted them on their final day of the season when they were embarrassed by the Tampa Bay Bandits. Walton then purged his coaching staff, shoving defensive coordinator Joe Gardi into resignation, firing defensive backfield coach Billy Baird and linebacker coach Ralph Baker, and watching offensive line coach Jim Ringo resign when Rich Kotite was



FREEMAN McNEIL

pushed ahead of him as offensive coordinator. Walton is trying to find the answer with a platoon of "old-pro" coaches. Bud Carson, fired by Kansas City head coach John Mackovic in training camp last year, is the new defensive coordinator. Bill Austin, pushed out of the Generals' organization by owner Donald Trump, is the new line coach. Dan Radakovich, a talented but individualistic coach, will handle the linebackers. Zeke Bratkowski, who said Frank Kush inhibited his passing strategy in Indianapolis, is the new quarterback coach. It should be an interesting year.

The haunting of Marino has to do with the



MARK GASTINEAU

draft of 1983. The Jets sought a quarterback, along with five other AFC teams that year, and selected Ken O'Brien from little-known California-Davis. Still on the board, left for Miami, was Marino. The rest, as they say, is history. Except that the Jets are still driven to prove that they didn't make a colossal error when they picked O'Brien over Marino. That's why O'Brien is the anointed starter for 1985. He won just one of five starts last year, while Pat Ryan was 6-5—6-2 before he suffered an injury. But O'Brien's the guy. Walton speaks in terms of two quarterbacks, trying to sound diplomatic, but in the current atmosphere around the Jets he merely comes off sounding indecisive. O'Brien retained the starting job late last season even after Ryan got healthy again and despite the losing. Even Ryan knows O'Brien is No. 1.

The problem for O'Brien is that the Jets seem to have lost their offensive personality. Wesley Walker finished the season deep in the Walton doghouse and was on the trading block during the offseason. Lam Jones never has been a favorite. The leading receiver was Mickey Shuler, the dependable but limited tight end. Since Walton uses the one-back-of-

JETS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Leahy, 89 points on 38 extra points and 17 field goals, 13th
RUSHING—McNeil, 1,070 yards on 229 carries, 4.7 avg., 5 TDs, 5th
PASSING—Ryan, 156 of 285 attempts for 1,939 yards and 14 TDs, 10th
RECEIVING—Shuler, 68 receptions for 782 yards, 11.5 avg., 6 TDs, 10th
INTERCEPTIONS—Carter, 4 for 26 yards, 6.5 avg., 28th
PUNTING—Ramsey, 74 punts, 39.7 avg., longest 64 yards, 13th
PUNT RETURNS—Springs, 28 for 247 yards, 8.8 avg., 7th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Humphery, 22 for 675 yards, 30.7 avg., 1TD, 1st

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	10	PHILADELPHIA (N)
	17	At Cincinnati (N)
	24	At New York Giants (N)
	31	At Green Bay (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8	At Los Angeles Raiders
	15	BUFFALO
	22	Green Bay at Milwaukee
	29	INDIANAPOLIS
October	6	At Cincinnati
	14	MIAMI (N)
	20	At New England
	27	SEATTLE
November	3	At Indianapolis
	10	At Miami
	17	TAMPA BAY
	24	NEW ENGLAND
	28	At Detroit
December	8	At Buffalo
	14	CHICAGO
	22	CLEVELAND

fense, Glenn Dennison, the ex-Miami U. tight end whose rookie season was somewhat disappointing, is the likely H-back. O'Brien threw 82 fewer passes than Ryan last year, but Ryan connected for 14 touchdown passes while O'Brien threw only six. It could be that O'Brien will sharpen up this season without the burden of appearing as a defendant in court (as part of the celebrated Mark Gastineau nightclub fracas), as he did last year. The draft brought a new playmate for him in Wisconsin wide receiver Al Toon, a 6-4 track man who is supposed to be able to do all the things Walker didn't do in the last two seasons.

The major part of the offense is running back Freeman McNeil. Even though he battled injuries, McNeil still ran for 1,070 yards and averaged 11.8 yards on his 25 receptions. He was voted the team's most valuable player. It could be that the Jets will use more two-back sets, with tough-running, tough-blocking Tony Paige as the fullback.

The offensive line, once the Jets' strongest area, is still good, but the left side is somewhat inexperienced with Reggie McElroy at tackle and Stan Waldemore at guard. Jim Sweeney, a college center at Pitt, could become a force at left guard this season. Joe Fields remains among the NFL's best centers, Dan Alexander is an underrated guard, and right tackle Marvin Powell is first-rate.

Defensively, the big news is that the Jets will switch to the 3-4 system this season, with Gastineau, the AFC's premier pass rusher, playing a position similar to that of Miami's A.J. Duhe: part down lineman, part linebacker. Gastineau led the NFL with 22 sacks last year, which was exactly half the Jets' total. Joe Klecko had an assortment of injuries and his days as an end may be over. He played nose tackle in the last Pro Bowl and that may be his position in Carson's revamped defense. Barry Bennett is another possibility at nose tackle, with the disappointing Ron Faurot, a No. 1 pick a year ago, also getting a trial as a combination lineman-linebacker. Marty Lyons ap-

pears to be in for the phased-out treatment.

One of the reasons for the switch from the 4-3 is the career-threatening knee injury suffered by middle linebacker Bob Crable. The reordered defense still has Lance Mehl and Greg Buttle, but both of those veterans must demonstrate to Carson that they have the versatility to make his new system go. Kyle Clifton and John Woodring should bid for work as inside backers.

Any marked improvement in the secondary depends upon the health of Russell Carter, whose rookie season was hexed by injuries. No matter where Carson decides to play Carter—at free safety, strong safety, or cornerback—the youngster has all-pro potential. The other experienced defensive backs are corners Bobby Jackson and Johnny Lynn, strong safeties Kirk Springs and Ken Schroy, and free safety Darrol Ray. Harry Hamilton, also hurt as a rookie, could bid for a safety job.



KEN O'BRIEN



The Jets also selected two highly touted defensive backs this year: Lester Lyles of Virginia and Donnie Elder of Memphis State.

Bobby Humphery led the AFC in kickoff returns and was a top coverage man. Springs is a skilled return man. Punter Chuck Ramsey will get a heavy challenge following a poor season. Pat Leahy, the long-time place-kicker, does a competent job. He connected on 17 of 23 field-goal attempts a year ago.

JETS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	NFL exp	college
60	Alexander, Dan	G	6-4	260	30	9	LSU
43	Armstrong, Tron	WR	6-2	200	24	1	E. Kentucky
35	Augustyniak, Mike	FB	5-11	226	29	4	Purdue
17	Avellini, Bob	QB	6-2	209	32	11	Maryland
95	Baldwin, Tom	DT	6-4	270	24	2	Tulsa
63	Banker, Ted	OL	6-2	255	24	2	SE Missouri
31	Barber, Marion	FB	6-2	224	26	4	Minnesota
58	Bell, Bobby	LB	6-3	217	23	2	Missouri
78	Bennett, Barry	DT	6-4	260	30	8	Concordia
64	Bingham, Guy	OL	6-3	255	27	6	Montana
23	Bligen, Dennis	RB	5-11	215	23	2	St. John's
83	Bruckner, Nick	WR	5-11	185	24	2	Syracuse
46	Burgess, Fernandez	SS	6-1	210	25	2	Morris Brown
51	Buttle, Greg	LB	6-3	232	31	10	Penn St.
27	Carter, Russell	DB	6-2	195	23	2	SMU
59	Clifton, Kyle	LB	6-4	233	23	2	TCU
69	Collins, Scott	LB	6-1	230	25	1	Oregon Tech
26	Cone, Ronny	FB	6-2	225	24	1	Georgia Tech
50	Crable, Bob	LB	6-3	234	26	4	Notre Dame
88	Davidson, Chy	WR	5-11	175	26	2	Rhode Island
22	Dennis, Mike	DB	5-10	195	27	6	Wyoming
86	Dennison, Glenn	TE	6-3	225	24	2	Miami
52	Eliopoulos, Jim	LB	6-2	229	26	3	Wyoming
74	Faurot, Ron	DE-LB	6-7	262	23	2	Arkansas
65	Fields, Joe	C	6-2	253	32	11	Widener
38	Floyd, George	DB	5-11	190	25	3	E. Kentucky
81	Gaffney, Derrick	WR	6-1	182	30	8	Florida
99	Gastineau, Mark	DE	6-5	265	29	7	E. Cent. Oklahoma
44	Griggs, Billy	TE	6-3	230	23	1	Virginia
94	Guilbeau, Rusty	LB	6-4	237	27	4	McNeese St.
39	Hamilton, Harry	S	6-0	193	23	2	Penn St.
42	Harper, Bruce	RB	5-8	179	30	9	Kutztown St.
34	Hector, Johnny	RB	5-11	197	25	3	Texas A&M
84	Humphery, Bobby	WR	5-10	170	24	2	New Mexico St.
40	Jackson, Bobby	CB	5-10	180	29	8	Florida St.
80	Jones, Johnny "Lam"	WR	5-11	180	27	6	Texas
73	Klecko, Joe	DL	6-3	263	32	9	Temple
89	Klever, Rocky	TE	6-3	225	26	3	Montana
5	Leahy, Pat	K	6-0	193	34	12	St. Louis
29	Lynn, Johnny	DB	6-0	198	29	6	UCLA
93	Lyons, Marty	DL	6-5	269	28	7	Alabama
68	McElroy, Reggie	T	6-6	270	25	3	West Texas St.
24	McNeil, Freeman	RB	5-11	212	26	5	UCLA
56	Mehl, Lance	LB	6-3	233	27	6	Penn St.
25	Minter, Cedric	RB	5-10	200	27	2	Boise St.
20	Mullen, Davlin	DB	6-1	177	25	3	W. Kentucky
7	O'Brien, Ken	QB	6-4	214	25	3	Cal-Davis
55	Ogren, Mark	LB	6-3	219	24	1	Minn-Duluth
49	Paige, Tony	FB	5-10	230	23	2	Virginia Tech
79	Powell, Marvin	T	6-5	270	30	9	Southern Cal
15	Ramsey, Chuck	P	6-2	194	33	9	Wake Forest
28	Ray, Darrol	FS	6-1	198	27	6	Oklahoma
45	Reda, Louis	S	6-0	192	24	1	Delaware
10	Ryan, Pat	QB	6-3	210	30	8	Tennessee
48	Schroy, Ken	SS	6-2	198	33	9	Maryland
82	Shuler, Mickey	TE	6-3	231	29	8	Penn St.
87	Sohn, Kurt	WR	5-11	180	28	4	Fordham
21	Springs, Kirk	S	6-0	192	27	5	Miami (OH)
53	Sweeney, Jim	OL	6-4	260	23	2	Pittsburgh
70	Waldemore, Stan	OL	6-4	269	30	8	Nebraska
85	Walker, Wesley	WR	6-0	182	30	9	California
57	Woodring, John	LB	6-2	232	26	5	Brown

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Toon, Al	WR	6-4	200	Wisconsin
2	Lyles, Lester	DB	6-3	215	Virginia
3	Elder, Donnie	DB	5-9	175	Memphis St.
4	Allen, Doug	WR	5-10	180	Arizona St.
5	Benson, Troy	LB	6-2	235	Pittsburgh
5	Luft, Brian	DT	6-6	270	Southern Cal
5	Smith, Tony	WR	5-11	170	San Jose St.
6	Deaton, Jeff	G	6-3	280	Stanford
6	Miano, Rich	DB	6-0	200	Hawaii
8	Monger, Matt	LB	6-1	235	Oklahoma St.
9	Waters, Mike	RB	6-2	225	San Diego St.
10	Glenn, Kerry	DB	5-9	175	Minnesota
11	White, Brad	DE	6-6	245	Texas Tech
12	Wallace, Bill	WR	6-2	190	Pittsburgh

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

The scene is a Southern California living room on NFL draft day, 1985. The time is 5:45 AM, PST. Duane Bickett sits on a couch with his agent, Leigh Steinberg. Bickett, the USC line-backer, holds a phone to his ear, a look of irreversible tragedy on his face.

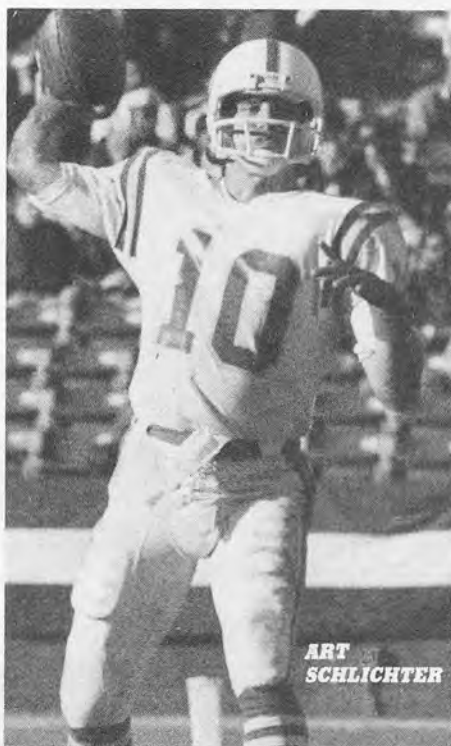
Friends involved in an auto accident? A death in the family? A tidal wave approaching Santa Monica beach? Bickett mumbles something into the receiver, then hangs up. He holds a hand to his forehead and drops his head on the back of the sofa, unable to speak for long seconds. The tragedy is that Bickett has been drafted in the first round by the Indianapolis Colts even though he has told owner Robert Irsay, personally, that he doesn't want to come.

It's like that with Indy.

This has been an offseason of change with the Colts. Frank Kush, the players' idea of the Wicked Witch of the North, is gone. Rod Dowhower, a respected offensive thinker, was hired in his place as head coach. But the punch line is that Tiger Irsay still runs the team, and that means variations on Bedlam. Don't underestimate the departure of Kush as a factor just by itself in some improvement in the Colts. There was champagne in the weight room the day Kush jumped to the USFL's Arizona Wranglers. Cries of "He's gone! "He's gone!" could be heard throughout the facility.

"It will be good to get the chains off and be free," said veteran linebacker Barry Krauss.

Dowhower comes to Indy with a totally different reputation. For one thing, he played or worked under such coaches as Don Coryell, Bill Walsh, and Dick Vermeil. He is schooled in the passing game, and at St. Louis, when he was offensive coordinator, he was largely responsible for the development of Neil Lomax. Kush, on the other hand, knew as much about the pro passing game when he arrived to coach the Colts as he did when he left. Which is to say almost nothing. Just what course



DUANE BICKETT

COLTS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Allegre, 47 points on 14 extra points and 11 field goals. . 25th
RUSHING—McMillan, 705 yards on 163 carries, 4.3 avg., 5 TDs. . 9th
PASSING—Pagel, 114 of 212 attempts for 1,426 yards and 8 TDs. . unranked
RECEIVING—Butler, 43 receptions for 664 yards, 15.4 avg., 6 TDs. . 26th
INTERCEPTIONS—Daniel, 6 for 25 yards, 4.2 avg. . 12th
PUNTING—Stark, 98 punts, 44.7 avg., longest 72 yards . 3rd
PUNT RETURNS—Anderson, 27 for 182 yards, 6.7 avg. . 12th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Anderson, 22 for 525 yards, 23.9 avg. . 3rd

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 SEATTLE (N)
17 At Chicago (N)
24 At Denver (N)
30 Cincinnati (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

1985 SCHEDULE	1984 SCORES
September 8 At Pittsburgh	17-16
15 At Miami	7-44
22 DETROIT	—
29 At New York Jets	9-5
October 6 BUFFALO	31-17
13 DENVER	—
20 At Buffalo	15-21
27 GREEN BAY	—
November 3 NEW YORK JETS	14-23
10 At New England	10-16
17 MIAMI	17-35
24 At Kansas City	—
December 1 NEW ENGLAND	17-50
8 At Chicago	—
15 At Tampa Bay	—
22 HOUSTON	35-21

Dowhower will take with Indy's passing isn't clear. When Hal Hunter replaced Kush in the last game of the season, Mike Pagel was on the bench and Art Schlichter was the starting quarterback. "I think Mike understands that Schlichter is the Colts' future," said Hunter, whose future with the Colts ended a couple of weeks later.

No one understands clearly just what the future holds, including Pagel, Schlichter, and even Dowhower. That isn't possible while Tiger Irsay continues to operate a theater of the absurd in the Hoosier Dome. But there was one interesting postseason vignette that suggests Dowhower might have scored a subtle victory in charting the team's course.

"We'll be emphasizing offense in the draft," said Jimmy Irsay, the Colts' GM and Tiger's son. This is how the draft actually went:

1. Bickett, USC linebacker
2. Don Anderson, Purdue defensive back
3. Anthony Young, Temple defensive back
4. Willie Broughton, Miami defensive end

It may have been a case of Dowhower establishing his base of authority, as well as exercising his judgment that the Colts needed to strengthen their all-or-nothing defense in order for him to get some development time with the offense. Maybe if his defense keeps him in most games, steals a few, and generally improves, Tiger won't be so quick to pull one of his infamous half-time forays into the locker room to undermine the coach's authority.

The team's greatest offensive strength is its running game, with Curtis Dickey and Randy McMillan. But with Dickey nothing is ever certain. Curtis conducts his own personal soap opera. When his head is screwed on tightly, he is one of the most dangerous players in the

NFL, whether running the ball or catching it. Dickey ran only 131 times for 523 yards. McMillan had 705 yards in 163 carries.

The effectiveness of both suffered when Chris Hinton, a Pro Bowl guard as a rookie, suffered a knee injury. If Hinton is healthy again, he, center Ray Donaldson, and Ron Solt, another second-year guard, give Indy a first-rate interior. The standards drop some at tackle with Ted Peterson and Jim Mills.

Raymond Butler is a competent veteran at wide receiver. He caught 43 passes and scored six touchdowns. Beyond him there is nothing extraordinary. Tracy Porter caught 39 passes and Matt Bouza 22. Starting tight end Tim Sherwin, playing a position which should be a young quarterback's life preserver, caught 11 passes. Pagel and Schlichter were sacked 51 times last year.

Defensively, the Colts have some talent in the line with Donnell Thompson, a reluctant dragon, and Blaise Winter at ends and Leo Wisniewski, who comes off the injured list, at nose tackle. Wisniewski had 7½ sacks, a high number for his position.

Bickett probably will be aimed at Cliff Odom's inside backer job. Krauss had 10 or more tackles in 11 games. Johnnie Cooks, a frequent visitor to Kush's doghouse, can still be a force at outside linebacker and Vernon Maxwell is one of the better blitzers.

The rookie defensive backs have a strong chance to play a lot or even start. The Colts' secondary is not to be confused with the Raiders'. Two rookies, Eugene Daniel and Preston Davis, started at corner last year. Mark Kalfentzis finished the season at strong safety when James Burroughs got hurt; Nesby Glasgow is the free safety.

Raul Allegre, hurt for much of the season, had a big field-goal dip to 11-for-18. Rohn Stark was among the best NFL punters, with a 44.7-yard gross average and 37.2-yard net.

One of Dowhower's principal chores may be to restore the confidence of the younger players. "During Monday films," said Glasgow, "it was more like a Johnny Carson roast than constructive criticism. I understand the tearing-down process, but it has to bottom out. Here it never did."

COLTS VETERAN ROSTER

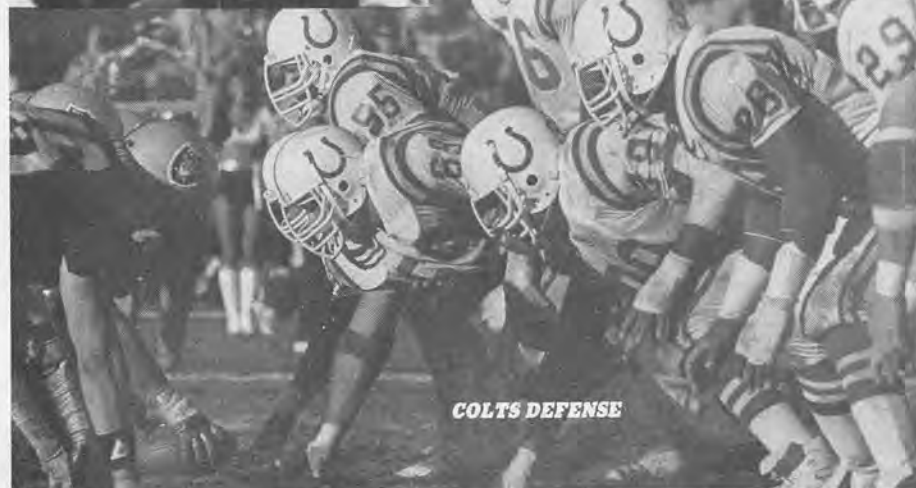
no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	NFL exp	college
2	Allegre, Raul	K	5-10	165	26	3	Texas
30	Anderson, Larry	SS	5-11	194	29	8	La Tech
61	Bailey, Don	C	6-4	257	24	2	Miami
72	Baldschwijs, Karl	OT	6-5	260	29	7	Oklahoma
81	Beach, Pat	TE	6-4	243	26	3	Washington St.
48	Bell, Mark	TE	6-5	246	28	6	Colorado St.
5	Biasucci, Dean	K	6-0	188	23	2	West Carolina
85	Bouza, Matt	WR	6-3	209	26	4	California
52	Bracelin, Greg	LB	6-1	216	28	6	California
45	Burroughs, James	CB	6-1	187	27	4	Michigan St.
80	Butler, Ray	WR	6-3	197	29	6	Southern Cal
73	Call, Kevin	OT	6-7	289	24	2	Colorado St.
98	Cooks, Johnnie	LB	6-4	243	27	4	Mississippi St.
38	Daniel, Eugene	CB	5-11	179	24	2	LSU
27	Davis, Preston	CB	5-11	180	23	2	Baylor
33	Dickey, Curtis	RB	6-0	222	29	6	Texas A&M
53	Donaldson, Ray	C	6-4	273	27	6	Georgia
65	Gardner, Ellis	OL	6-5	250	24	3	Georgia Tech
25	Glasgow, Nesby	S	5-10	180	28	7	Washington
58	Hathaway, Steve	LB	6-4	238	23	2	West Virginia
88	Henry, Bernard	WR	6-1	180	25	4	Arizona St.
75	Hinton, Chris	G	6-4	283	24	3	Northwestern
57	Hurmon, Mike	LB	6-3	240	26	5	Weber St.
51	Jones, Ricky	LB	6-2	230	30	8	Tuskegee
29	Kalfentzis, Mark	S	5-10	200	27	4	Hawaii
63	Kirchner, Mark	OT	6-3	261	26	3	Baylor
55	Krauss, Barry	LB	6-3	249	28	7	Alabama
56	Maxwell, Vernon	LB	6-2	238	24	3	Arizona St.
32	McMillan, Randy	FB	6-0	212	27	5	Pittsburgh
43	Middleton, Frank	RB	5-11	201	25	2	Florida A&M
76	Mills, Jim	OT	6-9	281	24	3	Hawaii
23	Moore, Alvin	RB	6-0	198	26	3	Arizona St.
84	Oatis, Victor	WR	6-0	184	26	2	NW Louisiana
93	Odom, Cliff	LB	6-2	235	27	5	Texas-Arlington
90	Padjen, Gary	LB	6-2	241	27	4	Arizona St.
18	Pagel, Mike	QB	6-2	205	25	4	Arizona St.
78	Parker, Steve	DE	6-3	262	26	3	E. Illinois
71	Petersen, Ted	OT	6-5	253	30	9	E. Illinois
87	Porter, Tracy	WR	6-2	202	26	5	LSU
21	Rachdowsky, George	DB	5-11	178	23	2	Boston College
35	Randle, Tate	S	6-0	196	26	4	Texas Tech
10	Schlichter, Art	QB	6-3	210	25	3	Ohio State
95	Scott, Chris	DE	6-5	253	24	3	Purdue
83	Sherwin, Tim	TE	6-6	245	27	5	Boston College
91	Smith, Byron	DE	6-5	264	23	2	California
86	Smith, Phil	WR	6-3	188	24	3	San Diego St.
66	Solt, Ron	OG	6-3	275	23	2	Maryland
3	Stark, Rohn	P	6-3	203	26	4	Florida St.
99	Thompson, Donnell	DE	6-5	263	27	5	North Carolina
64	Utt, Ben	OG	6-5	280	26	4	Georgia Tech
94	Virkus, Scott	DE	6-5	248	26	3	San Francisco CC
92	White, Brad	DT	6-2	260	27	5	Tennessee
39	Williams, Newton	FB	5-10	219	26	3	Arizona St.
40	Williams, Vaughn	DB	6-2	193	24	2	Stanford
96	Winter, Blaise	DE	6-3	262	23	2	Syracuse
69	Wisniewski, Leo	NT	6-1	259	26	4	Penn St.
34	Wonsley, George	RB	6-0	212	25	2	Mississippi St.
47	Young, Dave	TE	6-5	243	26	4	Purdue

DRAFTES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Bickett, Duane	LB	6-5	232	Southern Cal
2	Anderson, Don	DB	5-10	185	Purdue
3	Young, Anthony	DB	6-0	187	Temple
4	Broughton, Willie	DE	6-5	245	Miami
5	Caron, Roger	OT	6-5	270	Harvard
7	Harbour, James	WR	6-0	190	Mississippi
8	Nichols, Ricky	WR	5-10	180	East Carolina
9	Boyer, Mark	TE	6-4	232	Southern Cal
10	Pinesett, Andre	DT	6-2	245	Cal Fullerton
12	Burnette, Dave	OT	6-6	278	Cent. Arkansas



CURTIS
DICKY



COLTS DEFENSE



RANDY McMILLAN

BUFFALO BILLS

It was the next best thing to winning a football game by forfeit. The Buffalo Bills had the good fortune to finish dead last in the NFL the season before (1) a great pass rusher was available in the annual college draft and (2) Bernie Kosar elected to graduate early from the University of Miami.

The pass rusher is Bruce Smith, who won the Outland Trophy at Virginia Tech as the nation's best lineman last season. To give an idea how much he means to the Bills, consider that Buffalo had the second-worst pass-rush record in the league last year with just 26 sacks in 16 games. Smith alone had 38 sacks in his junior and senior seasons. The Bills moved quickly to make him the first selection in the regular draft and then sign him.

That was normal. The bonus was Kosar's decision to end his college career with two seasons of eligibility remaining. Since he elected to come into the draft not in time for the normal selections, but in the annual supplemental section during the summer, the Bills reaped an enormous dividend by swapping that first pick in the supplemental draft to the Cleveland Browns.

Ordinarily, all that is available in the supplemental draft is a pair of soiled sweat socks. But Kosar made this one different. This is what the Bills got for his rights: a first-round draft choice in '85 and another in '86, plus a third-rounder in '85 and a sixth-rounder in '86. The Bills turned the '85 first-round pick into Derrick Burroughs, the best man-to-man coverage cornerback in the draft. The Memphis State star is forecast as an immediate starter for the Bills, who are in urgent need of defensive backs who can cover. The third-round selection received from the Browns was converted into Utah State linebacker Hal Garner, a tall and rangy player who should contend for a starting job immediately.

The draft in general was sort of a get-well day for Buffalo. Nebraska's Mark Traylor, a

BILLS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Bell, 48 points on 8 touchdowns... T21st
RUSHING—Bell, 1,100 yards on 262 carries, 4.2 avg., 7 TDs... 4th
PASSING—Ferguson, 191 of 344 attempts for 1,991 yards and 12 TDs... 13th
RECEIVING—Franklin, 69 receptions for 862 yards, 12.5 avg., 4 TDs... 9th
INTERCEPTIONS—Romes, 5 for 130 yards, 26.0 avg., 13th
PUNTING—Kidd, 88 punts, 42.0 avg., longest 63 yards... 9th
PUNT RETURNS—Wilson, 33 for 297 yards, 9.0 avg., 1 TD... 5th
KICKOFF RETURNS—V. Williams, 39 for 820 yards, 21.0 avg., 10th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 9 At Detroit (N)
 17 At Miami (N)
 24 CLEVELAND (N)
 31 At Chicago (N)

1985 SCHEDULE 1984 SCORES

Month	Date	Opponent	Score
September	8	SAN DIEGO	17-21
	15	At New York Jets	17-21
	22	NEW ENGLAND	17-21
	29	MINNESOTA	17-31
October	6	At Indianapolis	10-38
	13	At New England	21-15
	20	INDIANAPOLIS	17-27
	27	At Philadelphia	21-52
November	3	CINCINNATI	10-13
	10	HOUSTON	17-21
	17	At Cleveland	10-38
	24	MIAMI	26-28
December	1	At San Diego	26-28
	8	NEW YORK JETS	26-28
	15	At Pittsburgh	7-38

BILLS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos.	ht.	wt.	age	exp.	college
75	Acker, Bill	NT	6-3	255	29	6	Texas
50	Azelby, Joe	LB	6-1	225	23	2	Harvard
84	Barnett, Buster	TE	6-5	235	27	5	Jackson St.
43	Bayless, Martin	S	6-2	195	23	2	Bowling Green
28	Bell, Grog	RB	5-10	210	23	2	Notre Dame
36	Bellinger, Rodney	CB	5-8	181	23	2	Miami
86	Brammer, Mark	TE	6-3	235	27	6	Michigan St.
81	Brookins, Mitchell	WR	5-11	196	25	2	Illinois
80	Butler, Jerry	WR	6-0	178	28	6	Clemson
30	Carpenter, Brian	CB	5-10	170	25	4	Michigan
63	Cross, Justin	T	6-6	265	26	4	Western St.
59	David, Stan	LB	6-3	210	23	2	Texas Tech
89	Dawkins, Julius	WR	6-1	196	24	3	Pittsburgh
83	Dennard, Preston	WR	6-1	183	30	8	New Mexico
70	Devlin, Joe	T	6-5	250	31	9	Iowa
19	Dufek, Joe	QB	6-4	215	24	3	Yale
85	Franklin, Byron	WR	6-1	185	27	4	Auburn
22	Freeman, Steve	S	5-11	185	32	11	Miss. St.
35	Gipson, Reggie	RB	6-2	205	25	1	Alabama A&M
53	Grant, Will	C	6-3	255	31	8	Kentucky
55	Haslett, Jim	LB	6-3	232	30	7	Indiana PA
25	Hill, Rod	CB	6-0	193	26	3	Kentucky St.
92	Howell, Leroy	DE	6-4	235	23	1	Appalachian St.
87	Hunter, Tony	TE	6-4	237	25	3	Notre Dame
91	Johnson, Ken	DE	6-5	253	30	7	Knoxville
48	Johnson, Lawrence	CB	5-11	204	28	6	Wisconsin
72	Jones, Ken	T	6-5	260	33	10	Arkansas St.
52	Koaling, Chris	LB	6-2	233	28	7	Maine
4	Kidd, John	P	6-3	201	24	2	Northwestern
10	Koller, Matt	QB	6-3	192	26	4	San Diego St.
42	Kush, Rod	S	6-0	188	32	6	Nebraska-Omaha
61	Lynch, Tom	G	6-5	250	30	9	Boston College
54	Marve, Eugene	LB	6-2	230	25	4	Saginaw Valley
95	McNanie, Sean	DE	6-5	252	24	2	San Diego St.
34	Moore, Booker	FB	5-11	224	26	4	Penn State
88	Mosley, Mike	WR	6-1	186	27	4	Texas A&M
41	Neal, Speedy	FB	6-2	254	23	2	Miami
13	Nelson, Chuck	K	5-11	175	25	3	Washington
38	Nixon, Jeff	S	6-3	190	29	5	Richmond
49	Norris, Ulysses	TE	6-4	232	28	7	Georgia
74	Payne, Jimmy	DE	6-4	265	25	1	Georgia
58	Potter, Steve	LB	6-3	235	28	5	Virginia
79	Prater, Dean	DE	6-4	245	27	4	Oklahoma St.
82	Richardson, Eric	WR	6-1	183	23	1	San Jose St.
40	Riddick, Robb	RB	6-0	195	28	4	Millersville St.
51	Ritcher, Jim	G	6-3	251	27	6	N.C. State
26	Romes, Charles	CB	6-1	190	31	9	N.C. Central
57	Sanford, Lucius	LB	6-2	216	29	8	Georgia Tech
76	Smerlas, Fred	NT	6-3	270	27	7	Boston College
56	Talley, Darryl	LB	6-4	235	25	3	West Virginia
	Taylor, Roger	T	6-6	275	27	2	Oklahoma St.
65	Vogler, Tim	C	6-3	245	29	7	Ohio St.
60	Wenglikowski, Al	LB	6-1	220	25	2	Pittsburgh
27	White, Craig	WR	6-1	194	24	2	Missouri
77	Williams, Ben	DE	6-3	260	31	10	Mississippi
23	Williams, Van	RB	6-0	208	26	3	Carson-Newman
21	Wilson, Donald	S	6-2	190	24	2	N.C. State

DRAFTES

rd.	name	pos.	ht.	wt.	college
1	Smith, Bruce	DE	6-3	280	Virginia Tech
1	Burroughs, Derrick	DB	6-1	185	Memphis St.
2	Traylor, Mark	OT	6-6	265	Nebraska
2	Burkett, Chris	WR	6-5	210	Jackson St.
3	Reich, Frank	QB	6-3	208	Maryland
3	Garner, Hal	LB	6-5	225	Utah St.
4	Reed, Andre	WR	6-0	190	Kutztown St.
4	Hellestrae, Dale	OT	6-6	265	SMU
5	Teal, Jimmy	WR	6-0	171	Texas A&M
6	Hamby, Mike	DT	6-5	265	Utah St.
7	Pitts, Ron	DB	5-10	180	UCLA
8	Robinson, Jacques	RB	5-11	215	Washington
9	Jones, Glenn	DB	5-10	170	Norfolk St.
10	Babyar, Chris	G	6-4	250	Illinois
11	Seawright, James	LB	6-2	219	South Carolina
12	Woodside, Paul	K	5-11	170	West Virginia



BRUCE SMITH



GREG BELL

6-6 and 270 pounds, was the first pick of the second round. He should bid to start at any of three offensive line positions: center, guard, or tackle. Chris Burkett, the lanky Jackson State receiver, was another indirect product of the Koser deal. The Bills traded down with Cleveland's first-round pick and, as a result, got a second-rounder from Green Bay. That's what they used to take Burkett.

Despite all the reinforcements, Buffalo still needs a quarterback even to be a spoiler in the AFC East. Veteran Joe Ferguson was traded to Detroit, and the man who finished the '84 season as the starter, Joe Dufek, probably will battle with rookie Frank Reich of Maryland to determine who becomes the team's developmental project.

The Bills had a violent, post-2-14 shakeup in almost every football department except the one you might expect. Kay Stephenson, the head coach, returns despite owner Ralph Wilson's dallying for weeks with ex-Cleveland coach Sam Rutigliano. Eight of the nine assistant coaches either were fired or left voluntarily. The new guys include Hank Bullough, one of the most respected defensive coordinators in football. He will receive the highest salary ever paid an NFL assistant and has the title of assistant head coach. He was an unsuccessful applicant for the Bills' head job. The Bills brought back Jim Ringo, once their head man, as line coach and offensive coordinator.

Ringo will try to reconstruct a running game around halfback Greg Bell, who was a surprising smash as a rookie, gaining 1,100 yards



and scoring seven touchdowns. His 85-yard touchdown run on the first play from scrimmage, the longest run ever against Dallas, keyed a 14-3 upset over the Cowboys, the highlight of the season. Booker Moore, mainly

a blocker, is Bell's running mate, but rookie Jacque Robinson of Washington, whose college specialty was bowl-game MVP awards, will play if he can keep his weight down.

The offensive line is experienced, but its

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JULIUS DAWKINS

forte was finesse and quickness and that's out-of-date now. Muscle is needed. Will Grant is the incumbent center with Jim Ritcher at left guard. Starting right guard John Borchardt was traded to Seattle, so Traynowicz has a natural opening. The tackles are Ken Jones and Joe Devlin.

With Jerry Butler a long shot to return this year from knee surgery in 1983, the emphasis is on young receivers such as Byron Franklin, who just missed the club record with 69 receptions last year, Mitchell Brookins, Burkett,

rookie Andre Reed of Kutztown State, and Eric Richardson, last year's No. 2 pick who spent the season on injured reserve. Also around is veteran Preston Dennard, who caught seven touchdown passes. Whoever plays quarterback may find his best friend is tight end Tony Hunter, who was inexplicably left out of the offense for a large portion of '84.

If the Bills are to show immediate improvement, it will be on defense under Bullough. If Smith has an immediate impact at end, it could free two former Pro Bowlers, nose tackle Fred Smerlas and left end Ben Williams.

Garner may push outside linebacker Lucious Sanford, who has been bothered by injuries for a couple of seasons. Darryl Talley is the coming star on the other side, with veterans Eugene Marve and Jim Haslett inside.

Burrough should join veteran Charles Romes as starting corners; little Rodney Belinger, injured in his rookie debut last year, is the nickel back. Steve Freeman is the team leader at strong safety, but free safety, manned mostly by Donald Wilson in his first pro year, is up in the air.

Buffalo's special teams were a tragedy the last two years, so a dozen or more rookies could make the team in the search for an extra edge. John Kidd had good numbers, a 42-yard average as the rookie punter, but his work tailed off late in the season. Rookie Paul Woodside of West Virginia will challenge place-kicker Chuck Nelson, who joined the Bills in the last month of the season and was unimpressive.



DARRYL TALLEY

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AFC West

DAVID KRIEG

BLAIR BUSH

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Tom Landry must be considered a dispassionate source when it comes to the Western Division of the American Football Conference. Late last season, when Denver, the Raiders, and Seattle were battling for the division title, Landry volunteered an opinion. "In that division," said the Dallas coach, "Seattle is the best team." As it turned out, the Broncos defeated the Seahawks in the division showdown. But consider what the Seahawks accomplished in 1984, and their future seems unlimited.

For starters, they lost their outstanding running back, Curt Warner, in the first game of the season. Warner was the principal reason the Seahawks had qualified for their first playoffs in 1983, when he enjoyed a Pro Bowl season in his first year as a professional. In effect, he was the Seahawk running game, and the Seattle offense was, as everyone seemed to know, "Ground Chuck," a phrase which capitalized Chuck Knox's offensive philosophy.

Then, in the fourth game of the season, the Seahawks lost Paul Johns because of a neck injury. Not only was he one of the top young receivers in the AFC, but he ranked among the league's best punt returners.

For all practical purposes, three-quarters of the Seattle attack had been scratched a quarter of the way through the season. But by the time the season was finished, the Seahawks had compiled the best won-lost record in the team's history, a 12-4 mark in the regular season and then a 13-7 victory over the Raiders in the wild-card playoff game. The Seahawks not only established a club standard for points scored in a season (418), they also set a team record for fewest points allowed (282). Their defense, statistically near the bottom of the NFL in 1983, accomplished three shutouts, which equaled the Seattle total for the entire eight previous seasons.

"It's chemistry," explained Reggie McKenzie, the veteran guard. "It's a nice blend we have here. We have the veterans, we have the

young players who are not real experienced but not inexperienced, and we had the rookies who have talent and were learning to play. The chemistry is not about everybody being pals and having a beer together after practice. It's about working together."

Since the Seahawks will have more experience, plus the same chemistry, plus a healthy Warner this season, they could be the best team in the history of the franchise.

Even before the key injuries, the question about the '84 Seahawks was whether inexperienced quarterback Dave Krieg could provide enough balance to the offense to keep opposing defenses from overloading against Warner. What Krieg did to compensate for Warner's absence was astounding, far beyond what even the optimists had hoped for him with Warner in the lineup. He threw for a club-record 3,671 yards and broke the team touchdown-pass record by a dozen, throwing for 32 scores. In one game, he passed for five touchdowns against the Detroit Lions. In another game, against San Diego, he completed 20 of 29 passes.

Steve Largent, Krieg's principal collaborator, outdid himself in the absence of Johns. He broke his own team record for touchdown passes, with 12. In one memorable afternoon against Denver, he caught 12 balls for 191 yards. After Johns was injured, rookie Daryl Turner stepped into the Seahawk lineup and caught 35 passes, 10 of which were for touchdowns. His per-catch average of 20.4 yards was the perfect item to stretch the pass defenses and prevent them from overplaying Largent. With Warner gone after his first 10 carries, the entire Seattle offense shifted to the pass. David Hughes, normally a blocker and specialty pass receiver, was the team's leading ground gainer, with 327 yards.

No Seattle team has ever had the offensive balance of this season's squad, with Krieg, Largent, Turner, and Warner—assuming he is healthy again. The offensive line is well-seasoned, with Blair Bush at center, Edwin Bailey and Robert Pratt at guards, and Ron Essink and Bob Cryder at tackles.

The defensive turnaround was almost predictable, considering that Tom Catlin, Knox's top aide, is in charge of the unit. Catlin ranks among the best defensive coordinators in football. The Seahawks led the NFL in takeaways, with 63, the second-best in NFL history. They also led the NFL with 38 interceptions, the highest figure in the league in 24 years. A third league-leading figure, 25 fumble recoveries, was a symbol of the aggressive, opportunistic Catlin style. Seattle led the NFL in takeover-turnover ratio (+24).

The Seahawks have developed into one of the league's fiercest pass-rush teams. They sacked the opposing quarterbacks 55 times last year. Jeff Bryant and Jacob Green, the ends, were the team leaders, with 14½ and 13 sacks, respectively. Nose tackle Joe Nash and veteran Mike Fanning, the man Catlin inserts when he uses a four-man rush, added seven each. Nash was an outstanding story in '84. One of the top overachievers in the NFL, the free agent from Boston College was named to the Pro Bowl.

Safety Kenny Easley was a popular choice for AFC defensive player of the year. He intercepted 10 passes, two of which he returned for touchdowns. But he cannot be gauged on the usual defensive statistics, such as inter-

ceptions. He is a fearsome player, one who tightropes the chalk line of legitimacy at times. Even the Raiders concede he is a "Raider type" who often succeeds by intimidation. He also makes the big play.

Easley's colleague in the secondary, Dave Brown, had his finest season in a 10-year career. He intercepted eight passes, tying a league record by returning two for touchdowns in one game against Kansas City. Brown, too, was named to the Pro Bowl. Cornerbacks Terry Taylor and Terry Jackson, along with free safety John Harris, make the secondary stable.

The linebackers, Keith Butler, Bruce

Scholtz, Greg Gaines, Shelton Robinson, and Michael Jackson, are not spectacular but they are effective. Robinson tied with Green for the most forced fumbles and led in tackles.

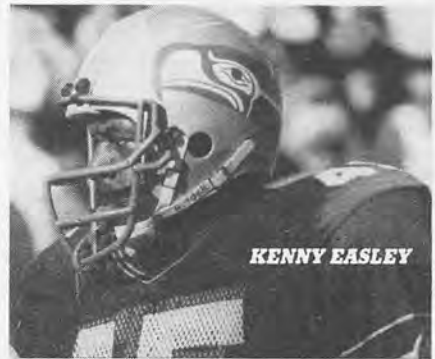
What puts the Seahawks ahead of most of the competition is their special teams, coached by the fiery Rusty Tillman.

"Our kickoff team fires us up every game," says Simpson. "They demolish people out there. We're going to try to take the ball away from you. The special teams will either take it away from you or knock your block off trying. Just watching them fires up the rest of us."

Fredd Young was named to the Pro Bowl in the special-teams designation. He was an example of the Seahawks' efficiency in all special departments. Opposing punt returners averaged a measly 6.4 yards and opposing kickoff returners a spartan 16.7. With Easley replacing Johns, the Seahawks averaged 11 yards per punt return themselves. Place-kicker Norm Johnson, another Pro Bowler, missed just four of 20 field goals. He was 10 of 11 from between the 30 and 49. The defense scored eight touchdowns. The special teams blocked four punts and two field goals which resulted in 27 points.

The man who should take the biggest bow is Knox, who has a special talent for assembling and retaining strong staffs of assistant coaches, keeping his players' outlooks sunny in the face of adversity, and adjusting to the strengths and weakness of his own team.

The nagging things about the Seahawks' immediate future are the uncertainty of Warner's knee and Johns's forced retirement. Knox tried to trade for George Rogers before the draft and, when he couldn't, made Owen Gill, the Iowa running back, his top draftee. It was for insurance.



KENNY EASLEY

SEAHAWKS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	NFL exp	age	college
69	Abramowitz, Sid	T	6-6	280	3	25	Tulsa
65	Bailey, Edwin	G	6-4	265	5	26	S. Carolina St.
22	Brown, Dave	CB	6-2	190	11	32	Michigan
32	Bryant, Cullen	FB	6-1	236	13	34	Colorado
77	Bryant, Jeff	DE	6-5	270	4	25	Clemson
59	Bush, Blair	C	6-3	252	8	29	Washington
96	Butler, Chuck	LB	6-0	220	2	24	Boise State
53	Butler, Keith	LB	6-4	238	8	29	Memphis State
83	Castor, Chris	WR	6-0	170	3	25	Duke
78	Cryder, Bob	T	6-4	282	8	29	Alabama
31	Dixon, Zachary	RB	6-1	204	7	28	Temple
33	Doornink, Dan	FB	6-3	210	8	29	Washington St.
35	Dufek, Don	S	6-0	195	9	31	Michigan
45	Easley, Kenny	S	6-3	206	5	26	UCLA
68	Edwards, Randy	DE	6-4	255	2	24	Alabama
64	Essink, Ron	T	6-6	275	6	27	Grand Valley
74	Fanning, Mike	DE	6-6	255	11	32	Notre Dame
56	Gaines, Greg	LB	6-3	220	4	27	Tennessee
79	Green, Jacob	DE	6-3	255	6	28	Texas A&M
44	Harris, John	S	6-2	200	8	29	Arizona St.
63	Hicks, Mark	LB	6-2	225	2	25	Arizona St.
46	Hughes, David	FB	6-0	220	5	26	Boise State
55	Jackson, Michael	LB	6-1	220	7	28	Washington
24	Jackson, Terry	CB	5-11	197	8	30	San Diego St.
85	Johns, Paul	WR	5-11	170	5	27	Tulsa
9	Johnson, Norm	K	6-2	193	4	25	UCLA
60	Kaiser, John	LB	6-3	221	2	23	Arizona
62	Kauahi, Kani	C	6-2	260	4	26	Hawaii
7	Komlo, Jeff	QB	6-2	195	6	29	Delaware
17	Krieg, Dave	QB	6-1	185	6	27	Millon
37	Lane, Eric	RB	6-0	195	5	26	BYU
80	Largent, Steve	WR	5-11	184	10	31	Tulsa
73	Mangiero, Dino	NT	6-2	270	6	27	Rutgers
67	McKenzie, Reggie	G	6-5	255	14	35	Michigan
51	Merriman, Sam	LB	6-3	225	3	24	Idaho
88	Metzelaars, Pete	TE	6-7	240	4	25	Wabash
71	Millard, Bryan	T	6-5	284	2	25	Texas
43	Morris, Randall	RB	6-0	190	2	24	Tennessee
21	Moyer, Paul	S	6-1	201	3	24	Arizona State
72	Nash, Joe	NT	6-2	250	4	25	Boston College
61	Pratt, Robert	G	6-4	250	12	34	North Carolina
11	Prestridge, Luke	P	6-5	235	7	29	Baylor
57	Robinson, Shelton	LB	6-2	233	4	25	North Carolina
84	Scales, Dwight	WR	6-2	182	9	32	Grambling
58	Scholtz, Bruce	LB	6-6	240	4	27	Texas
75	Schreiber, Adam	G	6-4	284	2	23	Texas
42	Simpson, Keith	CB	6-1	195	8	29	Memphis State
82	Skansi, Paul	WR	5-11	190	3	24	Washington
20	Taylor, Terry	CB	5-10	175	2	24	So. Illinois
86	Tice, Mike	TE	6-7	250	5	26	Maryland
81	Turner, Daryl	WR	6-3	198	2	24	Michigan St.
89	Walker, Byron	WR	6-4	190	4	25	Citadel
28	Warner, Curt	P	5-11	205	2	24	Penn State
8	West, Jeff	P	6-2	205	10	32	Cincinnati
54	Williams, Eugene	LB	6-1	220	3	25	Tulsa
87	Young, Charlie	TE	6-4	234	13	34	Southern Cal.
50	Young, Fredd	LB	6-1	225	2	24	New Mexico St.
10	Zorn, Jim	QB	6-2	200	10	32	Cal Poly-Pomona

DRAFTES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
2	Gill, Owen	RB	6-1	230	Iowa
3	Greene, Danny	WR	5-11	195	Washington
4	Davis, Tony	TE	6-5	248	Missouri
5	Napolitan, Mark	C	6-3	265	Michigan St.
6	Brown, Arnold	DB	5-11	185	North Carolina Cent.
5	Jones, Johnnie	RB	5-10	195	Tennessee
7	Mattes, Ron	OT	6-6	285	Virginia
8	Lewis, Judious	WR	5-9	175	Arkansas St.
9	Otto, Bob	DE	6-6	250	Idaho St.
10	Conner, John	QB	6-2	200	Arizona
10	Bowers, James	DB	6-2	195	Memphis St.
11	Cooper, Louis	LB	6-2	235	W. Carolina



STEVE LARGENT

SEAHAWKS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—N. Johnson, 110 points on 50 extra points and 20 field goals. 2nd
RUSHING—Hughes, 327 yards on 94 carries, 3.5 avg., 1 TD. 30th
PASSING—Krieg, 276 of 480 attempts for 3,671 yards and 32 TDs. 4th
RECEIVING—Largent, 74 receptions for 1,164 yards, 15.7 avg., 12 TDs. 4th
INTERCEPTIONS—Easley, 10 for 126 yards, 12.6 avg., 2 TDs. 1st
PUNTING—West, 95 punts, 37.5 avg., longest 60 yards. 15th
PUNT RETURNS—Easley, 16 for 194 yards, 12.1 avg. unranked
KICKOFF RETURNS—Dixon, 25 for 446 yards, 17.8 avg., 17th

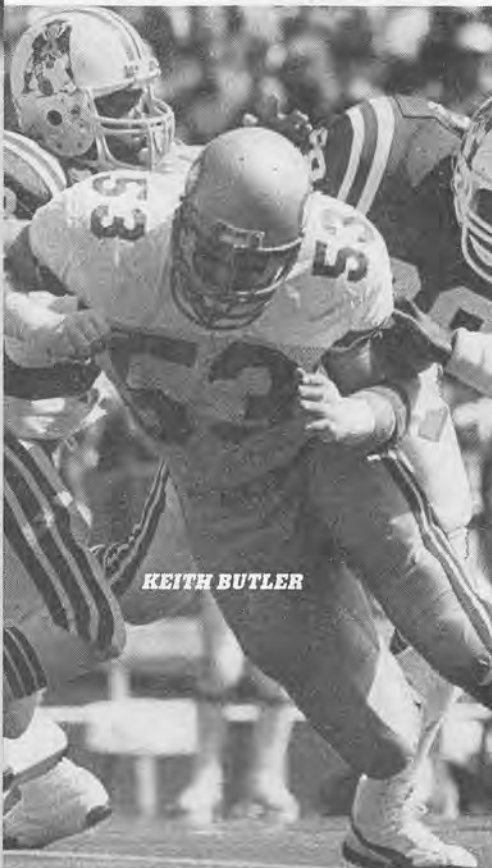
PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	10	At Indianapolis (N)
	16	DETROIT (N)
	24	At Minnesota (N)
	30	SAN FRANCISCO (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September	8	At Cincinnati	26-6
	15	At San Diego	24-0
	23	LOS ANGELES RAMS (N)	—
	29	At Kansas City	7-34
October	6	SAN DIEGO	31-17
	13	ATLANTA	—
	20	At Denver	27-24
	27	At New York Jets	—
November	3	LOS ANGELES RAIDERS	17-14
	10	At New Orleans	—
	17	NEW ENGLAND	23-38
	25	At San Francisco (N)	—
December	1	KANSAS CITY	45-0
	8	CLEVELAND	33-0
	15	At Los Angeles Raiders	14-28
	20	DENVER (N)	14-31

1984 SCORES



KEITH BUTLER

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

A Raider executive mused about his team's absence from the last Super Bowl: "Quite a number of our guys decided to take off this season." That observation could serve as a warning to the Raiders' opposition in 1985. Last season's malfunction should not be taken as a sign of terminal decay. Instead, it should be looked upon as temporary woolgathering, a slight detour in the Los Angeles team's resolve. The expectation is that the Raiders will be themselves again this year. That means an expected playoff finish with possibilities of much more.

A glimpse of those possibilities occurred early last December when L.A. visited Miami, the American Conference champion. Dan Marino, the Dolphins' gifted quarterback, threw for 500 yards, yet the Raiders prevailed, 45-34, in that most hostile of arenas, the Orange Bowl. "We needed that one to keep our reputations," admitted Lyle Alzado, the rowdy defensive end.

Now the Raiders need a big, consistent season to polish their reputations once again. They carry the shame of being outroughed, 13-7, by the Seattle Seahawks in their only playoff game. L.A. lost its concentration about midseason last year after winning seven of its first eight games. It was about then that the Raiders began believing all those notions about a dynasty, which started after their one-sided victory over the Washington Redskins in the previous Super Bowl. It was during that loss of concentration that the Raiders discovered that reputation doesn't do it on its own. You have to activate that reputation, especially when the division competition includes such toughies as Seattle and Denver.

The Raiders come into 1985 with their reputations intact, if somewhat tattered. Consider that five Los Angeles players were starters on the American Conference defensive platoon in the last Pro Bowl: end Howie Long, outside linebacker Rod Martin, cornerbacks Lester Hayes and Mike Haynes, and free safety Vann

McElroy. There were three more Pro Bowl starters on offense: running back Marcus Allen, tight end Todd Christensen, and tackle Henry Lawrence.

In assessing the Raiders, one starts with the defense, where the rowdy, bloodthirsty reputation has its base. Los Angeles had more sacks, 64, than any other AFC team. The most visible Raider lineman, Alzado, may also be the most vulnerable. He enters the season, his fifteenth, at the age of 36. The Raider strategists must remember that Ted Hendricks, the great linebacker, wobbled through his final season two years ago as he attempted to squeeze one more year out of an illustrious career. They may not be so patient with Alzado. One reason for that is there is so much talent among the line reserves. Bill Pickel, who comes into the game when the Raiders use a four-man front, led the team with 12½ sacks, 2½ more than Long. Pickel also led the line in tackles, with 82. Greg Townsend and Sean Jones, a rookie last season, have a lot of experience due to the Raiders' strategy of changing defenses from down to down. There would be several applicants for Alzado's job. Nose tackle Reggie Kinlaw is first-rate.

Hendricks' retirement was solved when the Raiders made a deal for Brad Van Pelt, who starred for the New York Giants for many years. The inside strong man is Matt Millen, who personifies the "let's-me-and-you-settle-this-outside" personality of the team more than any Raider. When veteran Bob Nelson was hurt late last season, Jack Squirek, one of the heroes of the Super Bowl victory over the

Redskins, moved into the starting lineup. They will battle for the job this year.

The strongest area on the club is the secondary, beyond doubt the best such unit in football. Haynes and Hayes are peerless cornerbacks, the only pair in the NFL who can play man-to-man with consistent excellence. McElroy, a college quarterback, combines brainy play evaluation with a rugged physical style. The strong safety, Mike Davis, would be the star on some other teams.

Only four of 17 opponents scored more than 20 points in a game against the Raiders. The catch was that the Raiders were held to 14 points or less in five games, all losses. That included the playoff game against Seattle. Tom Flores, the coach, will have to come to some sort of conclusion about his quarterback. Neither Marc Wilson nor Jim Plunkett was healthy for the greater portion of the '84 season, which handicapped Flores in arriving at a clear decision last year. If Plunkett can make another one of his comebacks, it will be a true miracle. He will be 38 by the time the playoffs arrive. Wilson finished eleventh in passer ratings among AFC quarterbacks and had the second-highest rate of interceptions, but he did throw 15 touchdown passes. His efficiency should rise as his protection is improved. He was sacked 35 times as a part-time starter last year.

Lawrence was the only Raider offensive lineman who wasn't struck down by injury for at least a portion of the season. There is enough experience and depth among guards Curt Marsh, Mickey Marvin, and Charley Hannah; tackles Lawrence, Bruce Davis, and Warren Bryant; and centers Dave Dalby and Dwight Wheeler to put together a viable line.

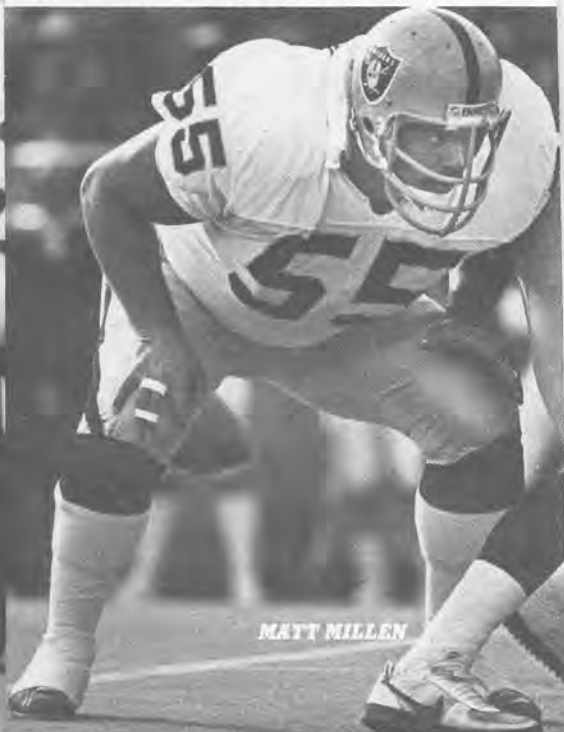
Todd Christensen, the poetic tight end, led the team in pass receptions again, with 80 for 1,007 yards and seven touchdowns, but his long summer holdout was disruptive to a team which seldom gets disrupted. Malcolm Barnwell had his best year, with 45 catches, but the corner is Dokie Williams, whose 23.1-yard



HOWIE LONG



MARC WILSON



MATT MILLEN

MARCUS ALLEN

RAIDERS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Allen, 108 points on 18 touchdowns. T3rd
RUSHING—Allen, 1,168 yards on 275 carries, 4.2 avg., 13 TDs. 2nd
PASSING—Wilson, 153 of 282 attempts for 2,151 yards and 15 TDs. 11th
RECEIVING—Christensen, 80 receptions for 1,007 yards, 12.6, 7 TDs. 3rd
INTERCEPTIONS—Haynes, 6 for 220 yards, 36.7 yards. 5th
PUNTING—Guy, 91 punts, 41.9 avg., longest 63 yards. 10th
PUNT RETURNS—Pruitt, 53 for 473 yards, 8.9 avg. 6th
KICKOFF RETURNS—D. Williams, 24 for 621 yards, 25.9 avg. 2nd

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	10	SAN FRANCISCO (N)
	18	WASHINGTON (N)
	24	MIAMI (N)
	30	At Cleveland (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September	8	NEW YORK JETS	—
	12	At Kansas City (N)	22-20
	22	SAN FRANCISCO	—
	29	At New England	—
October	6	KANSAS CITY	17-7
	13	NEW ORLEANS	—
	20	At Cleveland	—
	28	SAN DIEGO (N)	33-30
November	3	At Seattle	14-17
	10	At San Diego	44-37
	17	CINCINNATI	—
	24	DENVER	19-22
December	1	At Atlanta	—
	8	At Denver	13-16
	15	SEATTLE	28-14
	23	At Los Angeles Rams (N)	—

1984 SCORES

average and four touchdowns on 22 catches puts him in position to ease out the 37-year-old Cliff Branch. The Raiders' chief offensive gun remains Marcus Allen, whose 13 rushing touchdowns led the AFC. Allen's 1,168 yards was second-best in the AFC, and the bonus is his pass catching—64 for a robust 11.8-yard average and another five touchdowns.

The Raider special teams, as usual, are an asset. Williams finished second in the NFL with a 25.9-yard kickoff average. Matt Bahr, deadily from the 35 and closer, kicked 20 of 27 field goals. Ray Guy, who may have slipped some, is still among the premier punters.

The team's first two draft picks were wide receivers: Florida State's Jesse Hester can catch the deep ball and Tim Moffett of Mississippi will catch it over the middle.

RAIDERS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	exp	age	college
97	Ackerman, Rick	OT	6-4	250	3	26	Memphis St.
32	Allen, Marcus	RB	6-2	205	3	25	Southern Cal.
77	Alzado, Lyle	DE	6-3	260	14	36	Yankton
10	Bahr, Chris	K	5-10	170	9	32	Penn St.
56	Barnes, Jeff	LB	6-2	230	8	30	California
80	Barnwell, Malcolm	WR	5-11	180	4	27	Virginia Union
21	Branch, Cliff	WR	5-11	170	13	37	Colorado
66	Bryant, Warren	T	6-7	285	8	30	Kentucky
54	Byrd, Darryl	LB	6-1	220	2	25	Illinois
57	Caldwell, Tony	LB	6-1	220	2	24	Washington
87	Casper, Dave	TE	6-4	235	11	33	Notre Dame
46	Christensen, Todd	TE	6-3	230	6	29	BYU
50	Dalby, Dave	C	6-3	255	13	35	UCLA
79	Davis, Bruce	T	6-6	280	6	29	UCLA
45	Davis, James	CB	6-0	190	3	28	Southern U.
36	Davis, Mike	S	6-3	205	7	29	Colorado
8	Guy, Ray	P	6-3	195	12	36	Southern Miss.
73	Hannah, Charley	G	6-5	260	8	30	Alabama
27	Hawkins, Frank	RB	5-9	210	4	26	Nevada-Reno
37	Hayes, Lester	CB	6-0	200	8	30	Texas A&M
22	Haynes, Mike	CB	6-2	190	9	32	Arizona State
31	Jensen, Derrick	TE	6-1	215	6	29	Texas-Arlington
99	Jones, Sean	DE	6-7	265	2	23	Northeastern
33	King, Kenny	RB	5-11	205	6	28	Oklahoma
62	Kinlaw, Reggie	DT	6-2	245	5	28	Oklahoma
70	Lawrence, Henry	T	6-4	275	11	34	Florida A&M
75	Long, Howie	DE	6-5	265	4	25	Villanova
60	Marsh, Curt	OL	6-5	270	3	26	Washington
53	Martin, Rod	LB	6-2	220	8	31	Southern Cal.
65	Marvin, Mickey	G	6-4	260	8	30	Tennessee
26	McElroy, Vann	S	6-2	190	3	25	Baylor
23	McKinney, Odis	S	6-2	190	7	28	Colorado
52	Merrill, Mark	LB	6-3	235	6	30	Minnesota
55	Millen, Matt	LB	6-2	250	5	27	Penn State
28	Montgomery, Cle	WR	5-8	180	5	29	Abilene Christian
76	Muransky, Ed	OL	6-7	285	3	25	Michigan
71	Pickel, Bill	DT	6-5	255	2	26	Rutgers
16	Plunkett, Jim	QB	6-2	220	14	38	Stanford
34	Pruitt, Greg	RB	5-10	190	12	34	Oklahoma
88	Seale, Sam	WR	5-9	175	2	23	Western St. (Co.)
58	Squirek, Jack	LB	6-4	230	3	26	Illinois
30	Toran, Stacey	S	6-2	200	2	24	Notre Dame
93	Townsend, Greg	DE	6-3	240	2	24	TCU
91	Van Pelt, Brad	LB	6-5	235	12	24	Michigan St.
20	Watts, Ted	CB	6-0	195	4	26	Texas Tech
67	Wheeler, Dwight	C-T	6-3	275	7	30	Tennessee St.
85	Williams, Dokie	WR	5-11	180	2	25	UCLA
38	Willis, Chester	RB	5-11	200	4	27	Auburn
6	Wilson, Marc	QB	6-6	205	5	28	BYU

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Hester, Jessie	WR	5-11	170	Florida St.
3	Moffett, Tim	WR	6-1	180	Mississippi
3	Adams, Stefan	DB	5-10	190	East Carolina
4	Kimmel, Jamie	LB	6-3	245	Syracuse
5	Reeder, Dan	RB	5-11	225	Delaware
6	Hilger, Rusty	QB	6-3	200	Oklahoma St.
7	Belcher, Kevin	OT	6-5	310	Wisconsin
7	Pattison, Mark	WR	6-2	195	Washington
7	Clark, Bret	DB	6-2	195	Nebraska
7	Haden, Nick	C	6-3	275	Penn St.
8	Wingate, Leonard	DT	6-3	275	S.C. St.
9	Syndor, Chris	DB	6-0	195	Penn St.
10	McKenzie, Reggie	LB	6-1	240	Tennessee
10	Myres, Albert	DB	6-0	195	Tulsa
11	Strachan, Steve	RB	6-1	215	Boston College
12	Polk, Raymond	DB	5-9	190	Oklahoma St.



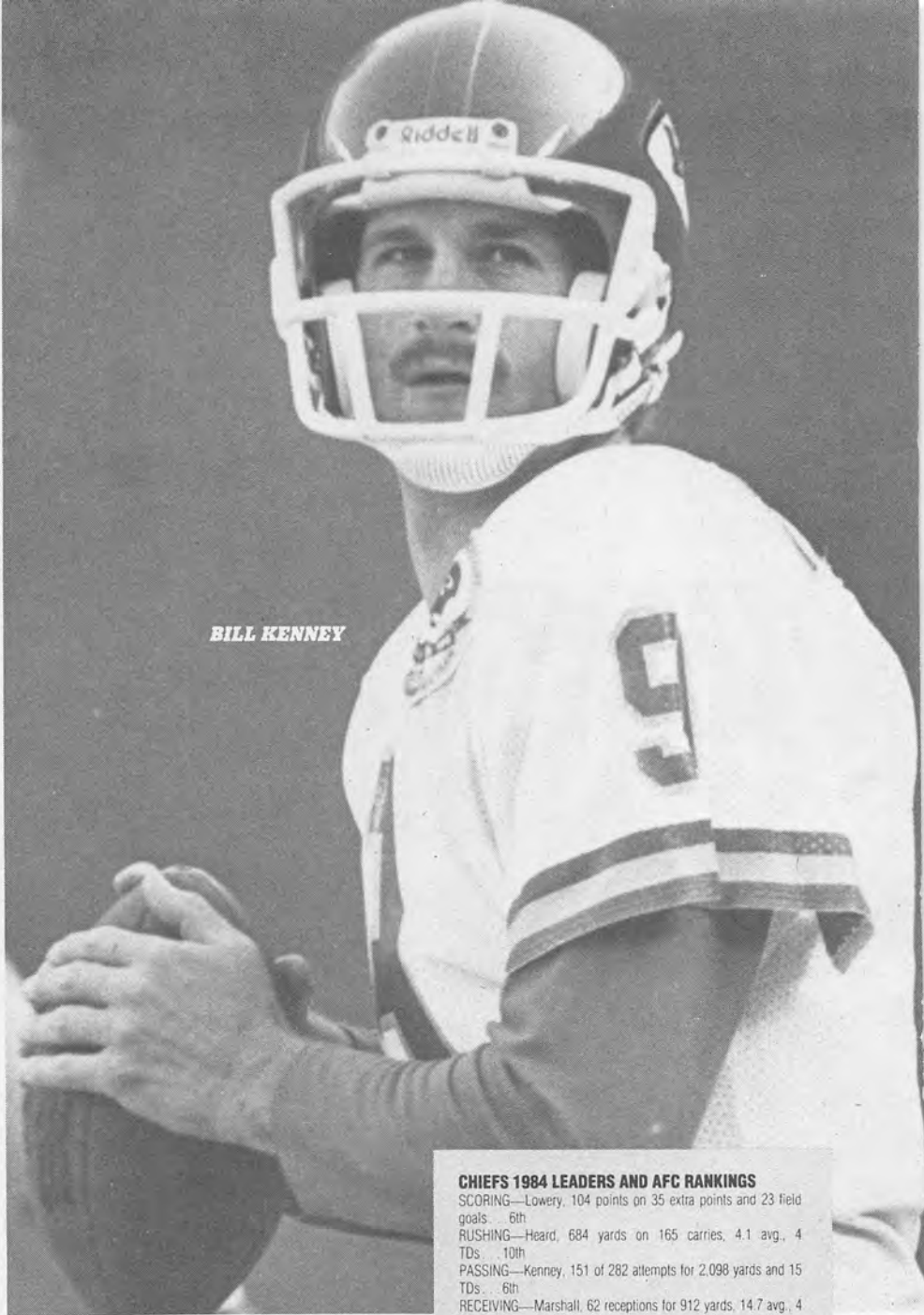
**DERON
CHERRY**

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Is there value in carry-over momentum from one season to another? The Chiefs won their last three games in 1984 to finish 8-8, including a sparkling finale in which they routed San Diego, 42-21, in Jack Murphy Stadium. But the momentum will have value only if Bill Kenney stays healthy in '85.

Coming off a 4,000-yard, Pro Bowl season in 1983, Kenney suffered a fractured thumb in the final preseason game last year, and the ensuing surgery caused him to miss the first six games. Later, he reinjured the thumb and also suffered knee and shoulder injuries. Still, he passed for 15 touchdowns and 2,098 yards. In Kenney's absence, Todd Blackledge, the No. 1 draftee in '83, stepped into the lineup and played reasonably well, as the Chiefs started out 3-3, but then his inexperience weighed upon him.

"I think my injury was the biggest single factor in our team," says Kenney in reflection.



BILL KENNEY

"It hurt our offense because it forced Todd to play, and he wasn't quite ready. And it put a lot of pressure on our defense to make up for it. In this offense, if the quarterback isn't out there making the plays, they aren't going to get made. We had no rhythm."

When whole, Kenney is one of the most formidable passers in the NFL. He has a three-pronged receiving corps. Henry Marshall caught 62 passes for 912 yards and four touchdowns; Carlos Carson had 1,078 yards and a 18.9-yard average on his 57 catches; Stephone Paige caught 30 passes for a 18-yard average. The Chiefs could use an improved tight end. Willie Scott is a journeyman.

The ironic thing about Kenney's injury-plagued season (he struck his thumb on an opposing player's helmet on his follow-through) is that the Chiefs' pass protection, woeful in the past, had a superb record in '84, allowing 33 sacks in 593 passing attempts, the best ratio in the history of the team. De-

CHIEFS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Lowery, 104 points on 35 extra points and 23 field goals. 6th
RUSHING—Heard, 684 yards on 165 carries, 4.1 avg., 4 TDs. 10th
PASSING—Kenney, 151 of 282 attempts for 2,098 yards and 15 TDs. 6th
RECEIVING—Marshall, 62 receptions for 912 yards, 14.7 avg., 4 TDs. 14th
INTERCEPTIONS—Cherry, 7 for 140 yards, 20.0 avg. 3rd
PUNTING—Arnold, 98 punts, 44.9 avg., longest 63 yards. 1st
PUNT RETURNS—J. T. Smith, 39 for 332 yards, 8.5 avg. 8th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Paige, 27 for 544 yards, 20.1 avg. 14th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 At Cincinnati (N)
17 NEW ENGLAND (N)
24 At Houston (N)
31 ST. LOUIS (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

		1984 SCORES
September	8 At New Orleans	—
	12 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (N)	20-22
	22 At Miami	—
	29 SEATTLE	34-7
October	6 At Los Angeles Raiders	7-17
	13 At San Diego	42-21
	20 LOS ANGELES RAMS	—
	27 DENVER	16-13
November	3 At Houston	16-17
	10 PITTSBURGH	37-27
	17 At San Francisco	—
	24 INDIANAPOLIS	—
December	1 At Seattle	0-45
	8 ATLANTA	—
	14 At Denver	0-21
	22 SAN DIEGO	31-13

spite the good pass-protection record, the offensive line is in various states of repair. Guard Brad Budde is developing into one of the NFL's better men at his position. Both center Bob Rush and guard Tom Condon are aging. So is tackle Matt Herkenhoff, but he's not showing it much. David Lutz, the other starting tackle, had a depressing year because of physical and family problems. John Alt is a huge corner at the position.

The fast finish and the prospects of Kenney's total recovery notwithstanding, the Chiefs are still too much a one-dimensional offense. They got a surprisingly good year out of rookie running back Herman Heard (684 yards in 165 carries), but he is not the sort of back who can carry a complete load. John Mackovic, the head coach, still has to come up with a running game which can give balance to the offense. Ken Lacy, the ex-USFL back, demonstrated that he is strictly a role player, as is short-yardage specialist Billy Jackson. The problem was worsened during the offseason when veteran Theotis Brown suffered a heart attack which probably ended his career.

Defensively, the Chiefs' statistics are deceptive. They finished 24th overall in the NFL and 23rd in pass defense, yet they showed the potential for a formidable future. Most of the showing was in the line, where veteran ends Art Still and Mike Bell now flank nose tackle Bil Maas. Maas did exactly as he was supposed to do, keeping the blockers honest in order to free Still and Bell to descend upon the quarterbacks. The result was 50 sacks, a Kansas City record. The figure was attained even though both Maas and Bell suffered late-season injuries. The tough Maas kept playing despite a fracture in his leg. Still had 14½ sacks and was voted the Chiefs' most valuable player. Bell had 13½ sacks, all in the first dozen games before he injured a knee.

The linebacking is in a state of change. Gary Spani and Jerry Blanton are experienced veterans, but behind them is Scott Ra-

decie, who played much better as a rookie than his poor senior season at Penn State had suggested. Calvin Daniels is solid at one outside spot, but Ken McAlister, a former San Francisco defensive back, and Jeff Paine fight for work on the other side.

The secondary is a contradictory place for K.C. In recent seasons, all-pro Gary Barbaro defected to the USFL and Mackovic traded starting cornerbacks Gary Green, an all-pro, and Eric Harris to the Los Angeles Rams. But capable replacements keep popping up. Deron Cherry, playing Barbaro's free-safety position, went to the Pro Bowl for the second straight year. Albert Lewis, one of the top newcomers in the league, played well in his first season as a starting corner, and Kevin Ross

was a rookie surprise at the other side. Lloyd Burruss does well as the strong safety.

The kicking game is strong. Jim Arnold, in his second pro season, led the NFL in gross punting with a 44.9-yard average and finished second in net average, with a 3.75 mark. The consistent Nick Lowery connected on 23 of 33 field goals.

The draft brought what may be the needed balance to the Kansas City offense. The Chiefs' first-round pick was Ethan Horton, a back whom scouts often compare to Calvin Hill, the one-time Cowboys' star. Horton, who went to North Carolina as a quarterback, is a big, punishing runner who bangs away at a defense and finally forces it to budge. He is also an excellent pass catcher, which will come in handy in the K.C. offense, and he blocks. At 6-foot-3 and 230 pounds, he's a load. Jon Hayes of Iowa was the second draft-ee, and he was the highest-rated tight end available. Could be that he will move right into the lineup.

CHIEFS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	exp	age	college
76	Alt, John	T	6-7	278	2	23	Iowa
6	Arnold, Jim	P	6-2	212	3	24	Vanderbilt
87	Arnold, Walt	TE	6-3	234	6	27	New Mexico
68	Auer, Scott	OL	6-4	255	2	24	Michigan St.
77	Baldinger, Rich	T/G	6-4	285	3	26	Wake Forest
99	Bell, Mike	DE	6-4	250	6	28	Colorado St.
14	Blackledge, Todd	QB	6-3	225	3	24	Penn State
57	Blanton, Jerry	ILB	6-1	236	7	29	Kentucky
27	Brown, Theotis	RB	6-2	225	7	28	UCLA
66	Budde, Brad	G	6-4	260	6	27	Southern Cal.
34	Burruss, Lloyd	SS	6-0	202	5	28	Maryland
88	Carson, Carlos	WR	5-11	180	6	27	LSU
20	Cherry, Deron	FS	5-11	190	5	26	Rutgers
65	Condon, Tom	G	6-3	275	12	33	Boston College
50	Daniels, Calvin	OLB	6-3	236	4	27	North Carolina
73	Dawson, Mike	NT	6-3	245	10	32	Arizona
38	Gunter, Michael	RB	5-11	205	2	24	Tulsa
82	Hancock, Anthony	WR	6-0	200	4	25	Tennessee
44	Heard, Herman	RB	5-10	184	2	24	S. Colorado
60	Herkenhoff, Matt	T	6-4	275	10	34	Minnesota
23	Hill, Greg	CB	6-1	189	3	24	Oklahoma St.
93	Holle, Eric	OL	6-4	250	2	25	Texas
43	Jackson, Billy	RB	5-10	215	5	26	Alabama
52	Jolly, Ken	QLB	6-2	220	2	23	Nazarene
9	Kenney, Bill	QB	6-4	211	7	30	N. Colorado
91	Kremer, Ken	NT	6-4	260	7	28	Ball State
40	Lacy, Ken	RB	6-0	222	2	25	Tulsa
26	Lane, Skip	DB	6-1	208	2	25	Mississippi
98	Lang, Mark	LB	6-2	235	1	24	Texas
29	Lewis, Albert	CB	6-2	190	3	25	Grambling
71	Lindstrom, Dave	DE	6-6	255	8	31	Boston U.
62	Lingner, Adam	OL	6-4	250	3	25	Illinois
84	Little, Dave	TE	6-2	239	2	24	Middle Tenn.
8	Lowery, Nick	PK	6-4	189	6	29	Dartmouth
72	Lutz, David	T	6-5	285	3	26	Georgia Tech
63	Maas, Bill	NT	6-4	265	2	23	Pittsburgh
94	McAlister, Ken	OLB	6-5	220	4	25	San Francisco
89	Marshall, Henry	WR	6-2	220	10	31	Missouri
11	Osiecki, Sandy	QB	6-5	202	2	25	Arizona St.
83	Paige, Stephone	WR	6-1	180	3	24	Fresno St.
95	Paine, Jeff	OLB	6-2	224	2	24	Texas A&M
21	Parker, Kerry	CB	6-1	200	2	30	Grambling
97	Radicke, Scott	ILB	6-3	240	2	23	Penn St.
30	Robinson, Mark	S	5-10	206	2	23	Penn State
31	Ross, Kevin	CB	5-9	180	2	23	Temple
70	Rourke, Jim	CB	6-5	263	6	28	Boston College
53	Rush, Bob	C	6-5	264	8	30	Memphis St.
81	Scott, Willie	TE	6-4	245	5	26	South Carolina
86	Smith, J.T.	WR	6-2	185	8	30	N. Texas State
59	Spani, Gary	ILB	6-2	228	8	29	Kansas St.
80	Stevens, Rufus	WR	6-3	182	1	24	Grambling
67	Still, Art	DE	6-7	257	8	30	Kentucky
35	Thomas, Ken	RB	5-9	211	2	25	San Jose St.
56	Zamberlin, John	ILB	6-2	226	7	29	Pacific Lutheran

DRAFTTEES

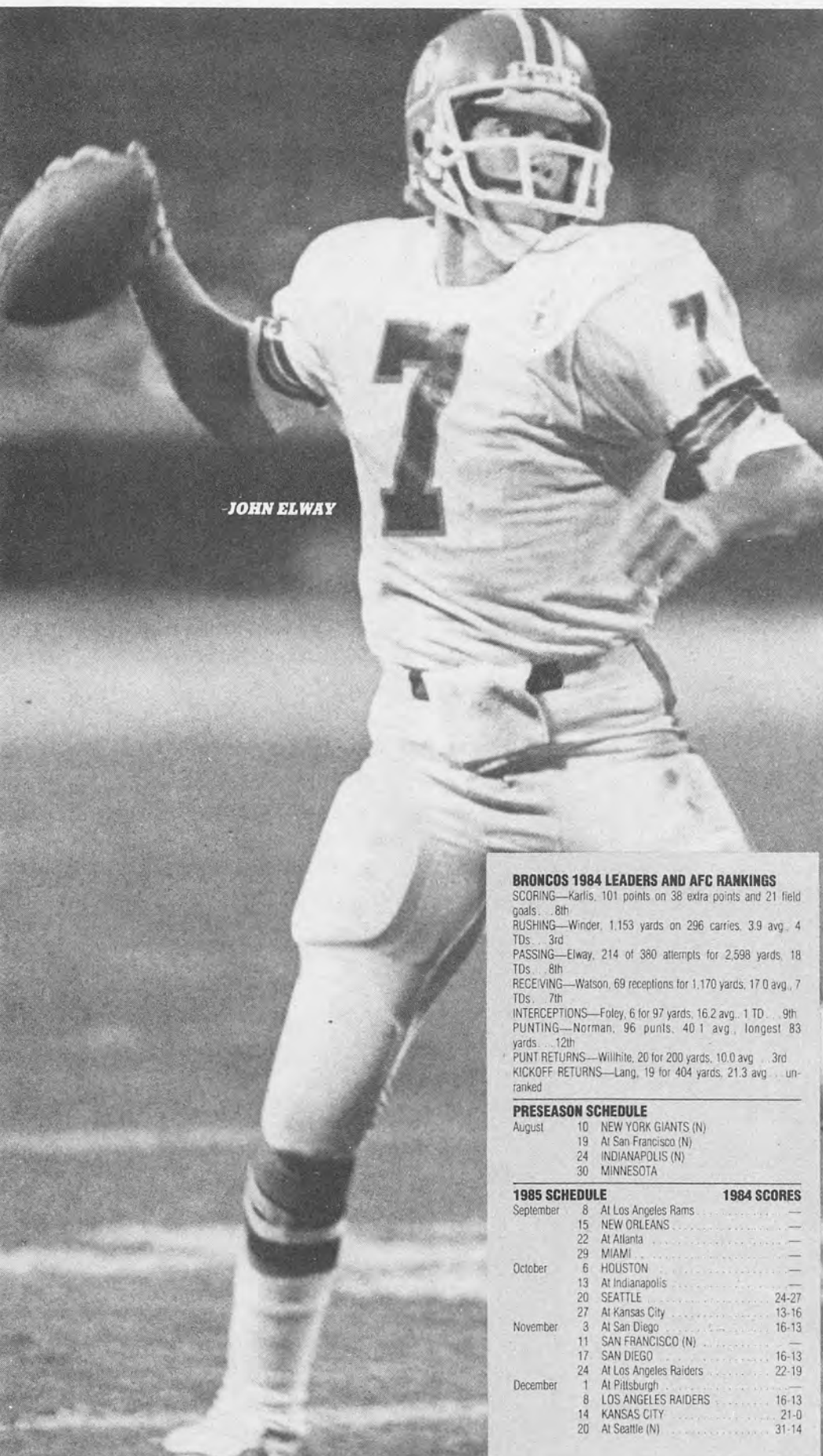
rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Horton, Ethan	RB	6-3	229	North Carolina
2	Hayes, Jonathan	TE	6-5	233	Iowa
4	Olderman, Bob	OG	6-4	272	Virginia
5	King, Bruce	RB	6-1	219	Purdue
6	Bostic, Jonathan	DB	5-10	175	Bethune-Cookman
7	Thompson, Vince	DE	6-4	265	Mo. Western
7	Heffernan, Dave	OG	6-3	255	Miami
8	Hillary, Ira	WR	5-10	186	South Carolina
9	Armentrout, Mike	DB	5-10	193	SW Missouri
10	Smith, Jeff	RB	5-9	201	Nebraska
11	Jackson, Chris	C	6-3	265	SMU
12	LaBel, Harper	C	6-4	251	Colorado St.



MIKE BELL



ALBERT LEWIS



JOHN ELWAY

BRONCOS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Karlis, 101 points on 38 extra points and 21 field goals, 8th
 RUSHING—Winder, 1,153 yards on 296 carries, 3.9 avg., 4 TDs, 3rd
 PASSING—Elway, 214 of 380 attempts for 2,598 yards, 18 TDs, 8th
 RECEIVING—Watson, 69 receptions for 1,170 yards, 17.0 avg., 7 TDs, 7th
 INTERCEPTIONS—Foley, 6 for 97 yards, 16.2 avg., 1 TD, 9th
 PUNTING—Norman, 96 punts, 40.1 avg., longest 83 yards, 12th
 PUNT RETURNS—Willhite, 20 for 200 yards, 10.0 avg., 3rd
 KICKOFF RETURNS—Lang, 19 for 404 yards, 21.3 avg., unranked

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 NEW YORK GIANTS (N)
 19 At San Francisco (N)
 24 INDIANAPOLIS (N)
 30 MINNESOTA

1985 SCHEDULE

September 8 At Los Angeles Rams
 15 NEW ORLEANS
 22 At Atlanta
 29 MIAMI
 October 6 HOUSTON
 13 At Indianapolis
 20 SEATTLE 24-27
 27 At Kansas City 13-16
 November 3 At San Diego 16-13
 11 SAN FRANCISCO (N)
 17 SAN DIEGO 16-13
 24 At Los Angeles Raiders 22-19
 December 1 At Pittsburgh
 8 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 16-13
 14 KANSAS CITY 21-0
 20 At Seattle (N) 31-14

1984 SCORES

BRONCOS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	exp	age	college
80	Alexander, Ray	WR	6-3	177	2	23	Florida A&M
54	Bishop, Keith	OL	6-3	265	5	28	Baylor
65	Bowyer, Walt	DE	6-4	252	3	25	Arizona St.
26	Brewer, Chris	RB	6-1	193	2	23	Arizona
64	Bryan, Billy	C	6-2	258	9	30	Duke
58	Busick, Steve	LB	6-4	227	5	27	So. California
68	Carter, Rubin	NT	6-0	256	11	33	Miami
79	Chavous, Barney	DE	6-3	258	13	34	S. C. State
59	Comeaux, Darren	LB	6-1	227	4	25	Arizona St.
63	Cooper, Mark	G	6-5	267	3	25	Miami
55	Dennison, Rick	LB	6-3	220	4	27	Colorado St.
7	Elway, John	QB	6-3	202	3	25	Stanford
43	Foley, Steve	S	6-2	190	10	32	Tulane
62	Freeman, Mike	G	6-3	249	2	24	Arizona
66	Garnett, Scott	NT	6-2	271	2	23	Washington
72	Graves, Marsharne	T	6-3	272	2	23	Arizona
31	Harden, Mike	CB	6-1	192	6	27	Michigan
74	Hood, Winford	G	6-3	262	2	23	Georgia
60	Howard, Paul	G	6-3	260	12	35	BYU
98	Hunley, Ricky	LB	6-2	238	2	24	Arizona
66	Hyde, Glenn	OL	6-3	255	9	34	Pittsburgh
57	Jackson, Tom	LB	5-11	220	13	34	Louisville
28	Jackson, Roger	S	6-0	186	4	26	Belh-Cookman
86	Johnson, Bulch	WR	6-1	187	9	31	Cal-Riverside
75	Jones, Rulon	DE	6-6	260	6	27	Utah St.
3	Karlis, Rich	K	6-0	180	4	26	Cincinnati
88	Kay, Clarence	TE	6-2	237	2	24	Georgia
8	Kubiak, Gary	QB	6-0	192	3	24	Texas A&M
33	Lang, Gene	RB	5-10	196	2	23	LSU
76	Lanier, Ken	T	6-3	269	5	26	Florida St.
22	Lilly, Tony	S	6-0	199	2	23	Florida
69	Manor, Brison	DE	6-4	248	9	33	Arkansas
77	Mecklenburg, Karl	DE	6-3	250	3	25	Minnesota
39	Myles, Jesse	RB	5-10	210	3	25	LSU
29	Myers, Wilbur	S	5-11	195	2	24	Delta St.
1	Norman, Chris	P	6-2	198	2	23	South Carolina
24	Parros, Rick	RB	5-11	200	5	27	Utah St.
48	Robbins, Randy	CB	6-2	189	2	23	Arizona
50	Ryan, Jim	LB	6-2	215	7	28	William & Mary
84	Sampson, Clint	WR	5-11	183	3	24	San Diego St.
83	Sawyer, John	TE	6-2	230	10	32	So. Mississippi
56	Smith, Aaron	LB	6-2	225	2	23	Utah St.
49	Smith, Dennis	S	6-3	200	5	26	Southern Cal
70	Studdard, Dave	T	6-4	260	7	30	Texas
85	Summers, Don	TE	6-4	226	2	24	Boise St.
51	Swenson, Bob	LB	6-3	225	9	32	California
61	Townsend, Andre	DL	6-3	265	2	23	Mississippi
81	Watson, Steve	WR	6-4	195	7	28	Temple
47	Willhite, Gerald	RB	5-10	200	4	26	San Jose St.
45	Wilson, Steve	CB	5-10	195	7	28	Howard
23	Winder, Sammy	RB	5-11	203	4	26	So. Mississippi
52	Woodard, Ken	LB	6-1	218	4	25	Tuskegee
87	Wright, Jim	TE	6-3	240	8	29	TCU
20	Wright, Louis	CB	6-2	200	11	32	San Jose St.

DRAFTIES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Sewell, Steve	RB	6-3	210	Oklahoma
2	Johnson, Vance	WR	5-11	174	Arizona
2	Fletcher, Simon	DE	6-5	240	Houston
4	McGregor, Keli	TE	6-7	252	Colorado St.
5	Hinson, Billy	OG	6-1	278	Florida
7	Cameron, Dallas	NT	6-2	245	Miami
8	Riley, Eric	DB	6-0	170	Florida St.
9	Smith, Daryl	DB	6-0	180	North Alabama
10	Funck, Buddy	QB	6-2	195	New Mexico
10	Anderson, Ron	LB	6-2	215	SMU
11	Rolle, Gary	WR	5-11	169	Florida
12	Lynch, Dan	OG	6-3	265	Washington St.

DENVER BRONCOS

In a way, Dan Reeves and John Elway were like a young father and his son, growing up together. Except that this was growing in a professional sense. Reeves, the Broncos' third-year coach, was impatient and far too demanding during Elway's rookie year. His handling of the wunderkind quarterback contributed greatly to the Broncos' disappointing season. Reeves was widely criticized for it.

But the coach took the criticism to heart. He didn't resent it, he learned from it. Consequently, his handling of Elway in the quarterback's second pro season was one of the major reasons the Broncos slipped past Seattle and the Raiders to win the championship of the AFC West. Probably the most effective move Reeves made was the trade of Steve DeBerg, Elway's chief rival, to Tampa Bay before the season began. "That wiped the slate clean," says wide receiver Steve Watson. "That told us 'Elway is our quarterback and that's the way it's going to be.'"

That's the way it was. Now it's time to see what happens when Elway is unleashed, in the manner of Dan Marino, Dave Krieg, and some of the other productive quarterbacks in the conference.

"I have absolute confidence that we can throw 40 times a game against any defense we come up against," says Watson. "We have the quarterback to do it, and with me, Butch [Johnson], and Clint [Sampson], I think we've got the receivers to do it. I know we could control the ball with the passing game, and I think we'd score more points doing it."

Elway threw the ball 100 fewer times than Krieg last year, 127 fewer than Dan Fouts of San Diego, and 184 fewer than Marino of Miami. Part of it was due to the relative success



of the running game. Sammy Winder ran the ball as much as anyone in the AFC and finished with 1,153 yards. That seemed to appeal to Reeves's conservative streak. But Winder was the only back among the AFC's top 10 rushers to average less than four yards a carry. He is a bang-bang type runner. His longest run was just 24 yards, shortest also among the league's top 10. He scored just four touchdowns.

So the invitation seems obvious: open up the attack. It worked when the Broncos went into the hostile Kingdom and upset Seattle, 31-14, to win the division title. Elway threw a 73-yard pass to Watson on the game's third play and the Broncos were winging. It didn't work against Pittsburgh, when the Steeler blitzers came out of the woodwork to harass the injured Elway in the playoffs.

Elway, when healthy, is among the NFL's most mobile quarterbacks, and the Broncos' protection, aided by that mobility, is getting better. Elway was sacked just 24 times. Now Reeves and his offensive coaches have to find a way to seal off the quarterback from those Steeler-type blitzes if they are to inflate Elway's role.

Watson is still among the premier receivers. He caught 69 passes for 1,170 yards, seven touchdowns, and a 17-yard average. Johnson, who arrived via Houston and Dallas, caught 42 for six touchdowns, and Winder added 44.

The most intriguing new weapon is running back Gerald Willhite, whose 4.8-yard average on 77 carries was the highest in team history.



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Sizes: <input type="checkbox"/> 36 <input type="checkbox"/> 38 <input type="checkbox"/> 40 <input type="checkbox"/> 42 <input type="checkbox"/> 44 <input type="checkbox"/> 46 Please specify size	
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SAMMY WINDER

Willhite stayed healthy at last and he showed Reeves some enormous possibilities. For instance, his 27 catches averaged 11 yards, unusually high for a back. He also averaged 10 yards on 20 punt returns and 27.3 yards on four kickoff returns. He is the most interesting Bronco to watch in '85—aside from Elway.

The offensive line is a nice blend of the experienced, the young, and the aged, with Billy Bryan at center, Paul Howard and Mark Cooper at guard, and Ken Lanier and Dave Studdard at tackle. Clarence Kay, Jim Wright, and John Sawyer are tight ends or H-backs.

Rick Karlis had some traumatic experiences when important field-goal attempts hit the crossbar, but overall he was 21 of 28 and his career percentage with Denver is .803.

The story of 1984, for the most part, was defense and the strategies used by Joe Collier, one of the NFL's ranking defensive gurus. The Broncos allowed the fewest points in the AFC (241) and the fewest touchdowns (26). They allowed less than 100 yards rushing in 11 games, including the season's final five. Denver reassumed its reputation as a quarterback-hounding team, setting a club mark with 57 sacks. Rulon Jones established an individual record with 11 sacks.

Collier's use of personnel is illustrated by these statistics: sixteen Broncos recorded sacks, 17 recovered fumbles, 13 shared the team's 31 interceptions. Seven touchdowns were scored by defensive players and turnovers set up 140 Denver points. Only one player, cornerback Louie Wright, was named to a major all-pro team and none was named

to the Pro Bowl. That enraged the Broncos, but it served as sort of a left-handed compliment to Collier.

There may be some movement in the Broncos' defense this year. Left end Barney Chavous, 34 and in his thirteenth season, may be challenged by Andre Townsend, who had five sacks as a rookie last year. Chavous had 6½, however. Jones and Rubin Carter comprise the rest of the line starters.

Someone in the linebacking unit may have to move over for Ricky Hunley this year. One of Cincinnati's first-round draft choices last year, Hunley ended up with the Broncos in a midseason trade after his negotiations with the Bengals reached an impasse. He is a quality talent. The man who moves may not be the oldest, Tom Jackson, 34. He had a spectacular season in '84. The other linebacking starters are Rick Dennison and Steve Busick inside, with Jim Ryan playing opposite Jackson outside. Karl Mecklenburg had seven sacks and two interceptions in relief.

Wright and Mike Hardén are the mainstays at corner. Dennis Smith may be about ready to move into the Kenny Easley class at strong safety. Free safety Steve Foley tied with Hardén for the interception lead, with six. Randy Robbins played well as a rookie defensive back in specialty situations.

The draft was designed to help Elway. The top pick was Oklahoma halfback Steve Sewell, who is known more for his receiving than his ball carrying. The second pick, track star Vance Johnson of Arizona, can get under any long ball Elway is likely to throw.



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SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

It's a major-league irony that in the season in which the Chargers changed ownership, Don Coryell is where he found himself when he first took over this team, in the fifth game of the 1978 season. Coryell, who replaced Tommy Prothro that year, won seven of his last eight and the Chargers were on the move. He may find that kind of resurgence beyond him now, considering the Chargers' personnel problems and the strength of the AFC West.

There were rumors toward the end of the '84 season that Coryell might be fired, but he weathered the problems. Alex Spanos, the new majority owner, is likely to grant Coryell, general manager Johnny Sanders, and assistant GM Tank Younger—all holdovers from the Gene Klein administration—a season in which to straighten out the situation.

It won't be simple. Start with the serious knee injury to tight end Kellen Winslow, one of the foremost offensive forces in football. Winslow's career is threatened. Then there is the increasing instance of injuries suffered by Dan Fouts, the admirable quarterback. Fouts passed for 3,740 yards and 19 touchdowns, but Air Coryell now services shorter routes in

order to give Fouts the time he needs but can't always get from his aging and deteriorating offensive line. An illustration of how important Fouts remains to the Chargers came in the final game of the season, against Kansas City, when the veteran quarterback was injured and couldn't play. His teammates staged a spiritual no-show. The Chiefs had the game won in the first quarter. "It was a bad way to end," admitted Coryell after the 42-21 loss. "A damn bad way."

The Chargers and Coryell have had two bad seasons in a row, in fact. In '83 it was 6-10 and last year 7-9. Only a nit-picker would make a case for improvement. "We have to get a few more good people," says Coryell, in suggesting a solution. "And the people we have have to get better."

Not easy. The Chargers don't terrify defenses with their weapons any longer. Winslow is a long shot to return. Wes Chandler, frustrated by multiple coverages, has been ineffective, and there was serious trade talk concerning him despite his 52 catches and six touchdowns. Chuck Muncie's career went up in a chemical explosion. Pete Johnson, whose acquisition was a bad idea in the first

place, was sent to Miami. James Brooks is in Cincinnati. The one remaining constant is the indestructible wide receiver Charlie Joiner, who led the team with 61 catches. But he is in his seventeenth season and will be 38 in October. And Coryell is still depending on ancients such as Ed White and Doug Wilkerson, both 38, and Don Macek, 36, to keep the pass rushers off Fouts's neck.

There was some good news in the Chargers' offense. The best was Earnest Jackson, a lightly regarded running back who, in Muncie's absence, led the AFC by gaining 1,179 yards in 296 carries as San Diego was forced to shift offensive gears. He scored eight touchdowns. After Winslow was injured, Pete Holohan developed into a factor with 56 catches, and another tight end, Eric Sievers, caught 41. Then, in the NFL draft, the Chargers selected an offensive lineman, Jim Lachey of Ohio State. It was the first time they had made an offensive lineman their first selection since 1968, when they took Russ Washington, who starred for a generation.

The Chargers made another interesting pick in the middle rounds: Michigan State place-kicker/punter Ralf Mojsiejenko. Rolf

EARNEST JACKSON

CHARGERS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Benirschke, 92 points on 41 extra points and 17 field goals... 12th
RUSHING—E. Jackson, 1,179 yards on 296 carries, 4.0 avg., 8 TDs... 1st
PASSING—Fouts, 317 of 507 attempts for 3,740 yards and 19 TDs... 3rd
RECEIVING—Joiner, 61 receptions for 793 yards, 13.0 avg., 6 TDs... 15th
INTERCEPTIONS—Byrd, 4 for 157 yards, 39.3 avg., 2 TDs... 17th
PUNTING—Butford, 66 punts, 42.1 avg., longest 60 yards... 8th
PUNT RETURNS—James, 30 for 208 yards, 6.9 avg., 1 TD... 11th
KICKOFF RETURNS—James, 43 for 959 yards, 22.3 avg... 6th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 CLEVELAND (N)
17 DALLAS (N)
24 At San Francisco (N)
30 NEW ORLEANS (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September 8 At Buffalo
15 SEATTLE 0-24
22 At Cincinnati
29 CLEVELAND
October 6 At Seattle 17-31
13 KANSAS CITY 21-42
20 At Minnesota 42-13
28 At Los Angeles Raiders (N) 30-33
November 3 DENVER 13-16
10 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 37-44
17 At Denver 13-16
24 At Houston 31-14
December 1 BUFFALO
5 PITTSBURGH (N) 24-52
15 PHILADELPHIA
22 At Kansas City 13-31

1984 SCORES

Benirschke, the veteran place-kicker, was 17 for 26 in field goals last season, but his health is always a worry. The Chargers had Joe Cooper in camp a year ago, cut him when Benirschke was ready, and then watched as he was picked up by Houston late in the season and kicked 11 of 13 field goals. Incumbent punter Maury Buford averaged 42 yards gross and 35.1 net.

The improvement of the San Diego defense remains a work in progress. The architect, de-

fensive coordinator Tom Bass, considered retirement, then signed a two-year contract extension. The defensive line has received the youth treatment and the linebacking has improved but the secondary still looks as if half the help was recruited from Manpower Inc.

Still, the Chargers keep trying. After Lachey was taken, four of the next five picks were defensive backs: Wayne Davis of Indiana State, Jeff Dale of Louisiana State, John Hendy of Long Beach State, and Terry Lewis

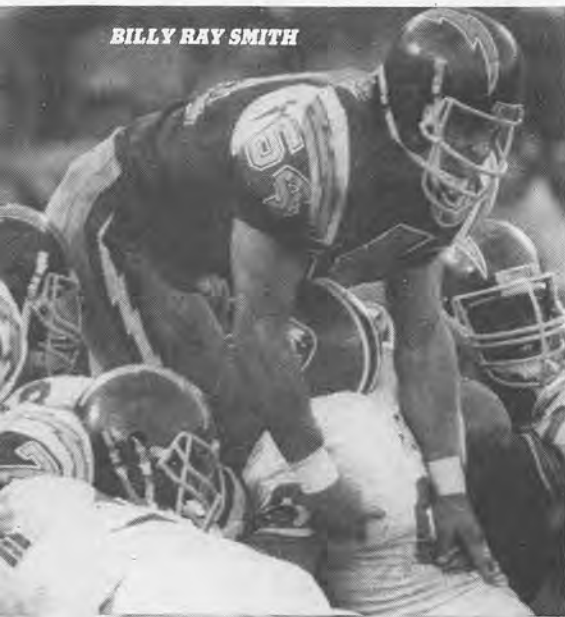
of Michigan State. The best of the incumbent starters is Gill Byrd, a cornerback. Danny Walters, once a top prospect, tumbled because of injuries and a drug problem last year. The others are a mixed bag of veterans and cast-offs: Tim Fox, Bob Gregor, Andre Young, Reuben Henderson, Miles McPherson, and Lucious Smith.

It's virtually conceded that Billy Ray Smith is not going to be the superstar the Chargers had hoped, but the inside linebacking combination of Smith and Mike Green has become satisfactory. Linden King is solid outside.

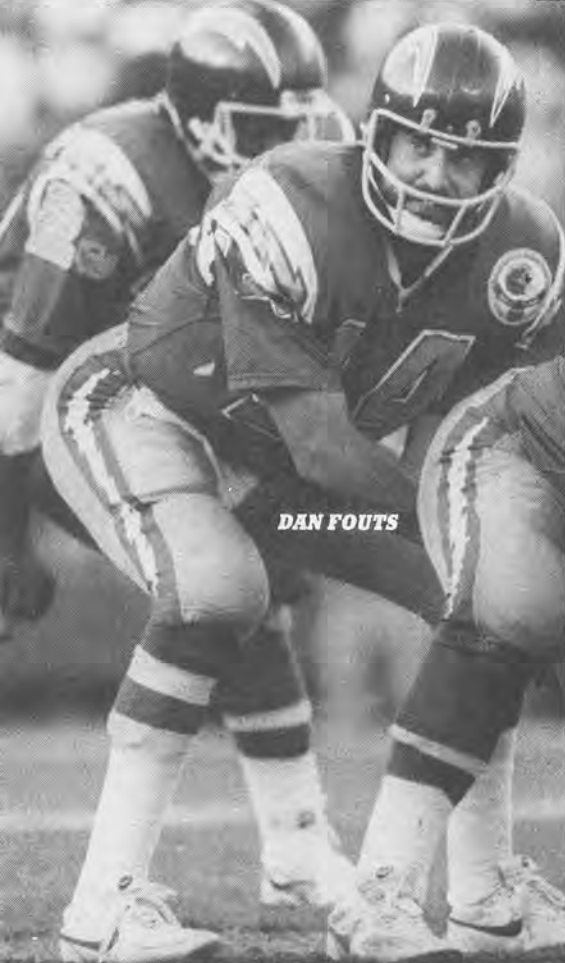
The best hope for the future in the defensive line is Lee Williams, potentially a top player. He joined the Chargers in midseason after his hitch with the Los Angeles Express expired. Williams was a tired player then. He needs a full NFL season for an honest evaluation. Keith Ferguson is the best of the veteran linemen. The Chargers also like Chuck Ehin.

One of the Charger problems has been an inability to restock talent. They have some promising youngsters, but sometimes there is a missing piece, such as the case of Bobby Duckworth, the swift receiver who averaged more than 28 yards on his 25 catches and scored four times. Duckworth lacks dependability. In one game last year, he "celebrated" what he thought was a touchdown by spiking the ball on the 5-yard line. Last season, the Chargers lost a first-round pick, cornerback Mossy Cade, to Memphis of the USFL. The Chargers' future, in fact, may reside in the USFL. They hold title to Tampa Bay running back Gary Anderson, Arizona Wrangler wide receiver Trumaine Johnson, Memphis full-back Tim Spencer, and Cade.

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DAN FOUTS

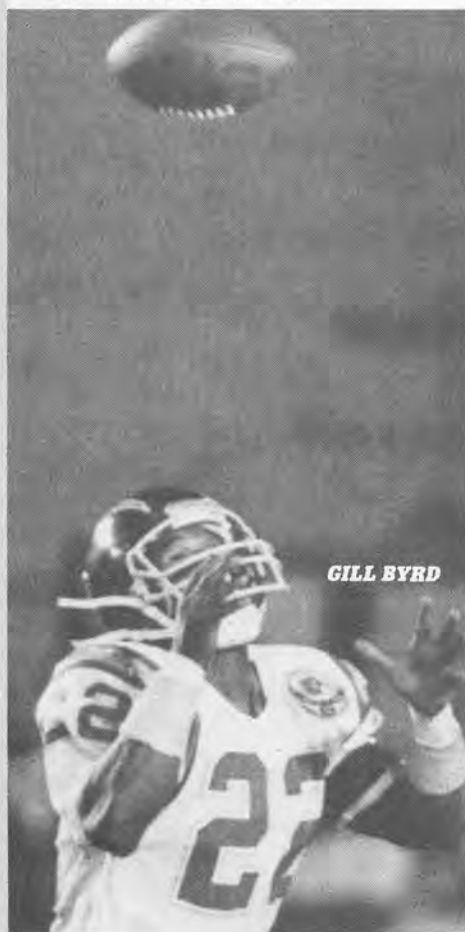


CHARGERS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	NFL	college
86	Bendross, Jesse	WR	6-0	197	24	2	Alabama	
6	Benirschke, Rolf	K	6-1	184	29	9	Cal-Davis	
50	Bradley, Carlos	OLB	6-0	226	24	5	Wake Forest	
61	Brown, Don	OL	6-6	275	25	2	Santa Clara	
7	Buford, Maury	P	6-1	191	24	4	Texas Tech	
22	Byrd, Gill	CB	5-10	201	23	3	San Jose St.	
89	Chandler, Wes	WR	6-0	182	28	8	Florida	
91	Chickillo, Tony	NT	6-3	259	24	2	Miami	
77	Clapham, Sam	OT	6-6	282	28	5	Oklahoma	
34	Craighead, Bobby	RB	6-1	201	23	2	NE Louisiana	
97	Dallafor, Ken	G	6-4	269	25	1	Minnesota	
82	Duckworth, Bobby	WR	6-3	196	26	4	Arkansas	
84	Egloff, Ron	TE	6-5	227	28	9	Wisconsin	
78	Ehin, Chuck	DE	6-4	260	24	3	BYU	
68	Elko, Bill	NT	6-5	280	24	3	LSU	
76	Ferguson, Keith	DE	6-5	255	25	5	Ohio St.	
98	Forde, Dewey	NT	6-5	285	24	2	Beth-Cookman	
14	Fouts, Dan	QB	6-3	203	33	13	Oregon	
48	Fox, Tim	FS	5-11	186	31	10	Ohio St.	
75	Gissinger, Andrew	OL	6-5	282	25	4	Syracuse	
69	Golourth, Derrel	G	6-3	260	29	9	Oklahoma St.	
58	Green, Mike	ILB	6-0	239	23	3	Oklahoma St.	
28	Greene, Ken	S	6-2	196	28	8	Washington St.	
43	Gregor, Bob	S	6-2	191	27	5	Washington St.	
53	Guendling, Mike	OLB	6-3	241	22	1	Northwestern	
73	Gulrie, Keith	NT	6-3	267	22	2	Texas A&M	
20	Henderson, Reuben	CB	6-0	196	26	5	San Diego St.	
9	Herrmann, Mark	QB	6-4	210	26	5	Purdue	
88	Holohan, Pete	TE	6-4	249	25	5	Notre Dame	
41	Jackson, Earnest	RB	5-9	206	26	3	Texas A&M	
26	James, Lionel	LB	5-6	172	22	2	Auburn	
18	Joiner, Charlie	WR	5-11	180	37	17	Grambling	
31	Kay, Bill	CB	6-1	190	25	5	Purdue	
57	King, Linden	OLB	6-5	250	29	8	Colorado St.	
64	Loewen, Chuck	OL	6-4	268	28	5	South Dakota St.	
51	Lowe, Woodrow	OLB	6-0	219	30	10	Alabama	
62	Macek, Don	C	6-2	260	30	10	Boston College	
12	Mathison, Bruce	QB	6-3	203	25	3	Nebraska	
21	McGee, Buford	RB	6-0	206	24	2	Mississippi	
60	McKnight, Dennis	OL	6-3	273	25	4	Drake	
24	McPherson, Miles	DB	5-11	191	24	4	New Haven	
83	Micho, Bob	TE	6-3	227	22	2	Texas	
25	Morris, Wayne	RB	6-0	208	30	10	SMU	
55	Nelson, Derrie	ILB	6-1	238	26	3	Nebraska	
96	Nelson, Shane	ILB	6-0	238	29	8	Baylor	
56	Osby, Vince	ILB	6-0	222	23	2	Illinois	
52	Preston, Ray	ILB	6-0	221	31	10	Syracuse	
1	Ricardo, Benny	K	5-10	170	31	8	San Diego St.	
90	Robinson, Fred	DE	6-4	240	22	2	Miami	
85	Sievers, Eric	TE	6-3	236	26	5	Maryland	
54	Smith, Billy Ray	ILB	6-3	231	23	3	Arkansas	
45	Smith, Johnny Ray	CB	5-9	190	27	4	Lamar	
33	Smith, Lucious	CB	5-10	190	28	6	Cal Fullerton	
32	Thomas, Jewell	RB	5-10	230	27	6	San Jose St.	
59	Thrift, Cliff	ILB	6-1	237	28	7	E. Central Okla.	
27	Turner, John	DB	6-0	193	28	8	Miami	
23	Walters, Danny	CB	6-1	180	24	3	Arkansas	
67	White, Ed	OL	6-1	269	37	17	California	
63	Wilkerson, Doug	G	6-3	253	37	16	N.C. Central	
99	Williams, Lee	DE	6-6	270	22	2	Beth-Cookman	
80	Winslow, Kellen	TE	6-5	242	27	7	Missouri	
49	Young, Andre	SS	6-0	190	24	4	La. Tech	

DRAFTIES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Lachey, Jim	G	6-6	280	Ohio St.
2	Davis, Wayne	DB	5-11	170	Indiana St.
2	Dale, Jeffery	DB	6-3	214	LSU
3	Hendy, John	DB	5-11	196	Long Beach St.
4	Molsiejenko, Ralf	K	6-3	198	Michigan St.
6	Lewis, Terry	DB	5-11	193	Michigan St.
7	Fellows, Mark	LB	6-1	222	Montana St.
8	Adams, Curtis	RB	6-0	198	Central Michigan
9	Berner, Paul	QB	6-3	207	Pacific
9	Remsburg, Dan	OT	6-5	270	Abilene Christian
10	King, David	DB	5-8	176	Auburn
11	Smith, Jeff	NT	6-2	255	Kentucky
12	Simmons, Tony	DE	6-4	256	Tennessee
12	Pearson, Bret	TE	6-3	240	Wisconsin



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Bears - 51 Butkus
Bears - 83 Gault
Packers - 12 Dickey
Packers - 80 Lofton
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Bucs - 53 Green
Saints - 34 Campbell
49ers - 16 Montana
49ers - 87 Clark
Rams - 21 Cromwell
Rams - 29 Dickerson
Falcons - 10 Bartkowski

Dolphins - 13 Marino
Dolphins - 22 Nathan
Dolphins - 77 Duhue
Dolphins - 81 Cefallo
Dolphins - 83 Clayton
Dolphins - 85 Duper
Patriots - 11 Eason
Jets - 24 McNeil
Jets - 99 Gastineau
Browns - 32 Brown
Browns - 50 Cousineau
Browns - 82 Newsome
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Steelers - 58 Lambert
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PLAYOFF & SUPER BOWL RECAP

1984 NFL FINAL STANDINGS

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	Opp
Washington	11	5	0	.688	426	310
N.Y. Giants	9	7	0	.563	299	301
Dallas	9	7	0	.563	308	308
St. Louis	9	7	0	.563	423	345
Philadelphia	6	9	1	.406	278	320

Central Division

Chicago	10	6	0	.635	325	248
Green Bay	8	8	0	.500	380	309
Tampa Bay	6	10	0	.375	335	380
Detroit	4	11	1	.281	283	408
Minnesota	3	13	0	.188	276	484

Western Division

San Francisco	15	1	0	.938	475	227
L.A. Rams	10	6	0	.625	346	316
New Orleans	7	9	0	.438	298	361
Atlanta	4	12	0	.250	281	382

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Eastern Division	W	L	T	Pct.	Pts.	Opp
Miami	14	2	0	.875	513	298
New England	9	7	0	.563	362	352
N.Y. Jets	7	9	0	.438	332	364
Indianapolis	4	12	0	.250	239	414
Buffalo	2	14	0	.125	250	454

Central Division

Pittsburgh	9	7	0	.563	387	310
Cincinnati	8	8	0	.500	339	339
Cleveland	5	11	0	.313	250	297
Houston	3	13	0	.188	240	437

Western Division

Denver	13	3	0	.813	353	241
Seattle	12	4	0	.750	418	282
L.A. Raiders	11	5	0	.688	368	278
Kansas City	8	8	0	.500	314	324
San Diego	7	9	0	.438	394	413

WILD CARD GAMES

Seattle 13, L.A. Raiders 7
N.Y. Giants 16, L.A. Rams 13

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Miami 31, Seattle 10
San Francisco 21, N.Y. Giants 10
Pittsburgh 24, Denver 17
Chicago 23, Washington 19

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

Miami 45, Pittsburgh 28
San Francisco 23, Chicago 0

SUPER BOWL XIX

San Francisco 38, Miami 16

AFC WILD CARD GAME

At Seattle, December 22

Los Angeles Raiders	0	0	0	7—7
Seattle	0	7	3	3—13

SECOND PERIOD

Seattle: Turner 26 pass from Krieg
(Johnson kick)

THIRD PERIOD

Seattle: Field goal Johnson 35

FOURTH PERIOD

Seattle: Field goal Johnson 44

Los Angeles: Allen 46 pass from Plunkett
(Bahr kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

	Los Angeles	Seattle
First downs	14	17
Rushes-yards	25-105	51-205
Passing yards	135	46
Return yards	5	73
Passes	14-27-2	4-10-0
Sacks by	2-24	6-49
Punts	8-42	8-38
Fumbles-lost	2-1	0-0
Penalties-yards	8-68	7-55
Time of possession	25:41	34:19
Attendance	62,049	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Los Angeles, Allen 17-61, Hawkins 6-34, Pruitt 1-6, King 1-4. Seattle, Doornink 29-126, Hughes 14-54, Lane 4-17, Krieg 3-10, Largent 1-(minus 2).
Passing: Los Angeles, Plunkett 14-27-2-184. Seattle, Krieg 4-10-0-70.
Receiving: Los Angeles, Allen 5-90, Hawkins 4-27, Barnwell 3-34, Christensen 1-21, King 1-12. Seattle, Turner 1-26, Tice 1-20, Doornink 1-14, Hughes 1-10.
Missed field goals: None.

NFC WILD CARD GAME

At Los Angeles, December 23

N.Y. Giants	10	0	6	0—16
Los Angeles Rams	0	3	7	3—13

FIRST PERIOD

New York: Field goal Haji-Sheikh 37
New York: Carpenter 1 run (Haji-Sheikh kick)

SECOND PERIOD

Los Angeles: Field goal Lansford 38

THIRD PERIOD

New York: Field goal Haji-Sheikh 39
Los Angeles: Dickerson 14 run (Lansford kick)
New York: Field goal Haji-Sheikh 36

FOURTH PERIOD

Los Angeles: Lansford 22

TEAM STATISTICS

	New York	Los Angeles
First downs	16	12
Rushes-yards	27-40	26-107
Passing yards	152	107
Return yards	25	17
Passes	22-31-0	11-15-0
Sacks by	4-27	2-2
Punts	4-39	4-38
Fumbles-lost	3-0	2-2
Penalties-yards	5-81	10-75
Time of possession	34:03	25:57
Attendance	67,037	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: New York, Morris 10-21, Carpenter 13-20, Simms 4-(minus 1). Los Angeles, Dickerson 23-107, Kemp 1-2, Crutchfield 2-(minus 2).
Passing: New York, Simms 22-31-0-179. Los Angeles, Kemp 11-15-0-109.
Receiving: New York, Carpenter 7-23, Mowatt 7-23, Manuel 3-52, Gray 2-20, Johnson 1-6, Galbreath 1-3, Morris 1-2. Los Angeles, Brown 3-32, Barber 3-31, Ellard 2-22, McDonald 2-18, Hill 1-6.
Missed field goals: None.

NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF

At San Francisco, December 29

New York Giants	0	10	0	0—10
San Francisco	14	7	0	0—21

FIRST PERIOD

San Francisco: Clark 21 pass from Montana
(Wersching kick)

San Francisco: Francis 9 pass from Montana
(Wersching kick)

SECOND PERIOD

New York: Field goal Haji-Sheikh 46

New York: Carson 14 interception return
(Haji-Sheikh kick)

San Francisco: Solomon 29 pass from Montana
(Wersching kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

	New York Giants	San Francisco
First downs	18	22
Rushes-yards	25-87	28-131
Passing yards	173	281
Return yards	81	57
Passes	25-44-2	25-39-3
Sacks by	4-28	6-45
Punts	6-38	5-42
Fumbles-lost	2-1	0-0
Penalties-yards	2-25	5-29
Time of possession	31:29	28:31
Attendance	60,303	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Giants, Morris 17-46, Galbreath 4-34, Carpenter 3-4, Simms 1-3. San Francisco, Montana 3-63, Tyler 14-35, Craig 10-34, Harmon 1-(1).
Passing: Giants, Simms 25-44-2-218. San Francisco, Montana, 25-39-3-309.
Receiving: Giants, Mowatt 5-49, Carpenter 5-22, Morris 4-45, Galbreath 4-25, Johnson 3-23, Manuel 2-32, Mullady 2-22. San Francisco, D. Clark 9-112, Solomon 4-94, Craig 4-31, Wilson 3-37, Tyler 2-26, Cooper 2-0, Francis 1-9.
Missed field goals: Giants, Haji-Sheikh 33. San Francisco, Wersching 39, 34.

AFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF

At Miami, December 29

Seattle	0	10	0	0—10
Miami	7	7	14	3—31

FIRST PERIOD

Miami: Nathan 14 run (von Schamann kick)

SECOND PERIOD

Seattle: Field goal Johnson 27

Miami: Cefalo 34 pass from Marino (von Schamann kick)

Seattle: Largent 56 pass from Krieg (Johnson kick)

THIRD PERIOD

Miami: Hardy 3 pass from Marino
(von Schamann kick)

Miami: Clayton 33 pass from Marino
(von Schamann kick)

FOURTH PERIOD

Miami: Field goal von Schamann 37

continued

San Francisco quarterback Joe Montana hands off to Wendell Tyler (above), who ran for 65 yards in the Super Bowl; Roger Craig (#33) had three touchdowns.



Focus on Sports



STREET AND SMITH'S PRO FOOTBALL

PLAYOFF & SUPER BOWL RECAP continued

TEAM STATISTICS

	Seattle	Miami
First downs	8	22
Rushes-yards	18-51	36-143
Passing yards	216	262
Return yards	127	81
Passes	20-35-0	21-34-2
Sacks by	0-0	2-18
Punts	7-37	3-37
Fumbles-lost	1-1	0-0
Penalties-yards	4-20	1-5
Time of possession	24:12	35:48
Attendance	73,469	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Seattle, Doornink 10-35, Hughes 7-14, Krieg 1-2. Miami, Nathan 18-76, Bennett 11-41, P. Johnson 6-22, Carter 1-4.
Passing: Seattle, Krieg 20-35-0-234. Miami, Marino 21-34-2-262.
Receiving: Seattle, Largent 6-128, Doornink 6-23, Turner 3-38, Skansi 2-31, Hughes 1-8, C. Young 1-5, Krieg 1-1. Miami, Clayton 5-75, Nathan 4-20, Hardy 3-48, Duper 3-32, Cefalo 2-43, Moore 2-11, Bennett 1-20, Rose 1-13.
Missed field goals: Seattle, Johnson 41. Miami, von Schamann 43, 37.

AFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF

At Denver, December 30

Pittsburgh	0	10	7	7-24
Denver	7	0	10	0-17

FIRST PERIOD

Denver: Wright 9 pass from Elway (Karlis kick)

SECOND PERIOD

Pittsburgh: Field goal Anderson 28

Pittsburgh: Pollard 1 run (Anderson kick)

THIRD PERIOD

Denver: Field goal Karlis 21

Denver: Watson 20 pass from Elway (Karlis kick)

Pittsburgh: Lipps 10 pass from Malone (Anderson kick)

FOURTH PERIOD

Pittsburgh: Pollard 2 run (Anderson kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

	Pittsburgh	Denver
First downs	25	15
Rushes-yards	40-169	22-51
Passing yards	212	199
Return yards	43	17
Passes	17-28-0	20-38-2
Sacks by	4-37	2-12
Punts	3-28	4-42
Fumbles-lost	3-2	2-0
Penalties-yards	4-30	1-5
Time of possession	32:52	27:08
Attendance	74,981	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Pittsburgh, Pollard 16-99,

Abercrombie 17-75, Veals 1-1, Lipps 1-0, Malone 5-(-6). Denver, Winder 15-37, Elway 4-16, Willhite 1-1, Parros 1-0, Watson 1-(-3).

Passing: Pittsburgh, Malone 17-28-0-224.

Denver, Elway 19-37-2-184, Willhite 1-1-0-52.

Receiving: Pittsburgh, Lipps 5-86, Pollard 4-48,

Stallworth 3-38, Abercrombie 3-18,

Cunningham 1-19, Thompson 1-15. Denver,

Watson 11-177, Winder 4-22, Wright 2-16,

Willhite 2-12, Alexander 1-9.

Missed field goals: Pittsburgh, Anderson 40, 26, 39. Denver, Karlis 39, 57.

That's Wendell Tyler after the 49ers' 38-16 conquest of the Miami Dolphins in last season's Super Bowl.

NFC DIVISIONAL PLAYOFF

At Washington, December 30

Chicago	0	10	13	0-23
Washington	3	0	14	2-19

FIRST PERIOD

Washington: Field goal Moseley 25

SECOND PERIOD

Chicago: Field goal B. Thomas 34

Chicago: Dunsmore 19 pass from Payton (B. Thomas kick)

THIRD PERIOD

Chicago: Gault 75 pass from Fuller (kick failed)

Washington: Riggins 1 run (Moseley kick)

Chicago: McKinnon 16 pass from Fuller (B. Thomas kick)

Washington: Riggins 1 run (Moseley kick)

FOURTH PERIOD

Washington: Safety,

Finzer stepped out of end zone

TEAM STATISTICS

	Chicago	Washington
First downs	13	22
Rushes-yards	35-114	27-93
Passing yards	196	243
Return yards	17	29
Passes	10-17-0	22-42-1
Sacks by	7-49	5-34
Punts	5-39	5-37
Fumbles-lost	2-1	3-2
Penalties-yards	6-34	7-55
Time of possession	30:24	29:36
Attendance	55,431	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Chicago, Payton 24-104, Suhey 7-7,

C. Thomas 1-5, Fuller 2-5, Finzer 1-(minus 7).

Washington, Riggins 21-50, Theismann 5-38,

J. Washington 1-5.

Passing: Chicago, Fuller 9-15-0-211, Payton

1-2-0-19. Washington, Theismann

22-42-1-292.

Receiving: Chicago, McKinnon 4-72, Gault 1-75,

Suhey 1-33, Dunsmore 1-19, C. Thomas 1-13,

Payton 1-12, Moorehead 106, Washington,

Monk 10-122, Muhammad 5-62, Didier 4-85,

J. Washington 2-12, Warren 1-11.

Missed field goals: Washington, Moseley 41.

continued



JOHN SPOFFORD/FOCUS WEST



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PLAYOFF & SUPER BOWL RECAP continued

NFC CHAMPIONSHIP

At San Francisco, January 6

Chicago	0	0	0	0-0
San Francisco	3	3	7	10-23

FIRST PERIOD

San Francisco: Field goal Wersching 21

SECOND PERIOD

San Francisco: Field goal Wersching 22

THIRD PERIOD

San Francisco: Tyler 9 run (Wersching kick)

FOURTH PERIOD

San Francisco: Solomon 10 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)

San Francisco: Field goal Wersching 34

TEAM STATISTICS

Chicago San Francisco

First downs	13	25
Rushes-yards	32-149	29-159
Passing yards	37	228
Return yards	17	69
Passes	13-22-1	19-35-2
Sacks by	3-8	9-50
Punts	7-43	3-39
Fumbles-lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-yards	7-50	3-20
Time of possession	31:53	28:07
Attendance	61,040	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Chicago, Payton 22-92, Fuller 6-39, Suhey 3-16, C. Thomas 1-2. San Francisco, Tyler 10-68, Craig 8-44, Montana 5-22, Harmon 3-18, Ring 2-5, Cavanaugh 1-2.

Passing: Chicago, Fuller 13-22-1-87. San Francisco, Montana 18-34-2-233, Cavanaugh 1-1-0-3.

Receiving: Chicago, Suhey 4-11, McKinnon 3-48, Payton 3-11, Moorehead 2-14, Dunsmore 1-3. San Francisco, Solomon 7-73, D. Clark 4-83, Wilson 2-25, Tyler 2-22, Francis 2-20, Nehemiah 1-10, Harmon 1-3.

Missed field goals: Chicago, Thomas 41.

AFC CHAMPIONSHIP

At Miami, January 6

Pittsburgh	7	7	7	7-28
Miami	7	17	14	7-45

FIRST PERIOD

Miami: Clayton 40 pass from Marino

(von Schamann kick)

Pittsburgh: Erenberg 7 run (Anderson kick)

SECOND PERIOD

Miami: Field goal von Schamann 26

Pittsburgh: Stallworth 65 pass from Malone (Anderson kick)

Miami: Duper 41 pass from Marino

(von Schamann kick)

Miami: Nathan 2 run (von Schamann kick)

THIRD PERIOD

Miami: Duper 36 pass from Marino

(von Schamann kick)

Pittsburgh: Stallworth 19 pass from Malone (Anderson kick)

Miami: Bennett 1 run (von Schamann kick)

FOURTH PERIOD

Miami: Moore 6 pass from Marino

(von Schamann kick)

Pittsburgh: Capers 29 pass from Malone (Anderson kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

Pittsburgh Miami

First downs	22	28
Rushes-yards	32-143	38-134
Passing yards	312	435
Return yards	25	54
Passes	20-36-3	22-33-1
Sacks by	0-0	0-0
Punts	3-44	2-43
Fumbles-lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-yards	3-30	3-25
Time of possession	27:27	32:33
Attendance	76,029	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Pittsburgh, Abercrombie 15-68,

Pollard 11-48, Erenberg 6-27. Miami, Nathan 19-64, P. Johnson 10-39, Bennett 8-33, Strock 1-(minus 2).

Passing: Pittsburgh, Malone 20-36-3-312

Miami, Marino 21-32-1-421, Nathan 1-1-0-14.

Receiving: Pittsburgh, Erenberg 5-59, Stallworth 4-111, Lipps 3-45, Sweeney 3-42, Pollard 3-13, Capers 1-29, Abercrombie 1-13. Miami, Nathan 8-114, Duper 5-148, Clayton 4-95, Moore 2-34, Hardy 2-16, Rose 1-28.

Missed field goals: Pittsburgh, Anderson 53.

Miami, von Schamann 52.

SUPER BOWL XIX

At Stanford, January 20

Miami	10	6	0	0-16
San Francisco	7	21	10	0-38

FIRST PERIOD

Miami: Field goal von Schamann, 37

San Francisco: Monroe 33 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)

Miami: Johnson 2 pass from Marino

(von Schamann kick)

SECOND PERIOD

San Francisco: Craig 8 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)

San Francisco: Montana 6 run (Wersching kick)

San Francisco: Craig 2 run (Wersching kick)

Miami: Field goal von Schamann 31

Miami: Field goal von Schamann 30

THIRD PERIOD

San Francisco: Field goal Wersching 27

San Francisco: Craig 16 pass from Montana (Wersching kick)

TEAM STATISTICS

Miami San Francisco

First downs	19	31
Rushing	2	16
Passing	17	15
Penalty	0	0
Third down eff.	4-12	6-11
Fourth down eff.	0-0	0-1
Total net yards	314	537
Total plays	63	76
Average gain	5.0	7.1
Net yards rushing	25	211
Rushes	9	40
Average per rush	2.8	5.3
Net yards passing	289	326
Completed-attempted	29-50	24-35
Yards per pass	5.4	9.0
Sacked-yards lost	4-29	1-5
Had intercepted	2	0
Punts-average	6-39	3-33
Had blocked	0	0
Total return yards	155	91
Punts-returns	2-15	5-51
Kickoffs-returns	7-140	4-40
Interceptions	0	2-0
Penalties-yards	1-10	2-10
Fumbles-lost	1-0	2-2
Time of possession	22:49	37:11
Attendance	84,059	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing: Miami, Bennett 3-7, Nathan 5-18,

Marino 1-0. San Francisco, Tyler 13-65, Craig 15-58, Montana 5-59, Harmon 5-20, Cooper 1-4, Solomon 1-5.

Passing: Miami, Marino 29-50-2-318.

San Francisco, Montana 24-35-0-331.

Receiving: Miami, Nathan 10-83, D. Johnson 3-28, Clayton 6-92, Duper 1-11, Rose 6-73, Moore 2-17, Cefalo 1-14. San Francisco, Tyler 4-70, D. Clark 5-72, Craig 8-82, Monroe 1-33, Francis 5-60, Solomon 1-14.

San Francisco's
Ray Wersching led the NFL
in scoring and added
eight points in the Super Bowl.

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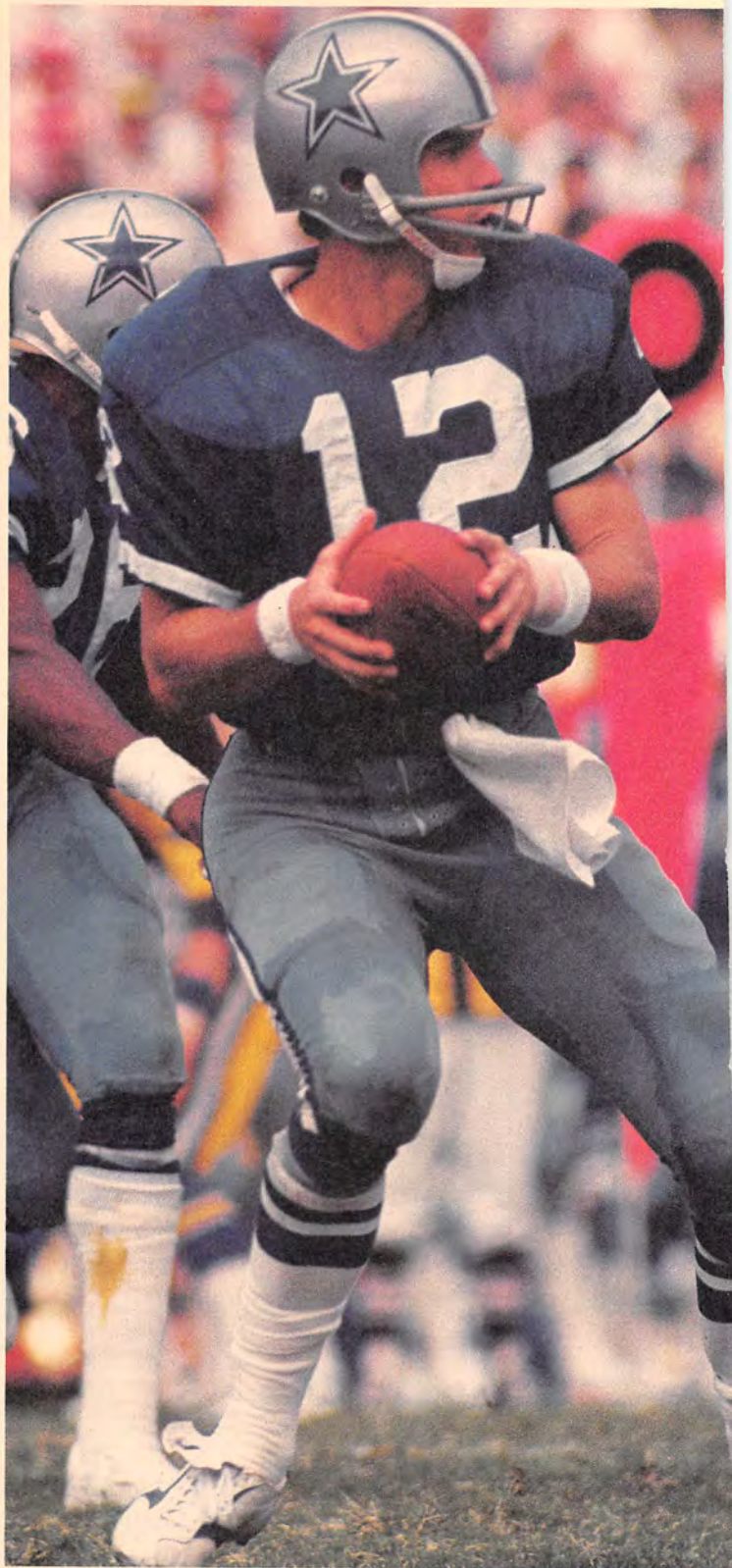
HALL OF FAME

T

he pro football Hall of Fame elected five new members this year: O.J. Simpson, Roger Staubach, Joe Namath, Frank Gatski, and Pete Rozelle.

Simpson was admitted in his first year of eligibility, following the mandatory five-year waiting period after his retirement in 1979. A 6-1, 212-pound running back, he was a two-time All-America at Southern Cal and the Heisman Trophy winner in 1968. Simpson was the No. 1 pick in the 1969 NFL draft and was used as a runner, receiver, and kickoff-returner by Buffalo's John Rauch. Though he led the team in rushing in each of his first three years, Simpson blossomed in 1972 when Lou Saban, who guided the Bills to AFL championships in 1964-65, returned as coach. He won the first of his four rushing titles in '72, then broke Jim Brown's single-season standard (1,863 yards) with 2,003 yards the following year. In 1974, Simpson produced over 1,000 yards again and made the only playoff appearance of his career—the wild-card Bills lost a first-round contest to the eventual Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh Steelers. In 1975, he ran for 1,817 yards, added another 428 yards in receptions, scored 23 touchdowns, and captured his third Player of the Year award. Simpson set the one-game rushing record in '76 when he gained 272 yards against the Detroit Lions on Thanksgiving Day. A knee injury limited him to less than half a season in 1977, and in March of '78, he was traded to the San Francisco 49ers for five draft choices. But a shoulder separation and then further knee problems forced him to the sidelines, and Simpson called it quits in 1979 after 11 seasons and 11,236 rushing yards.

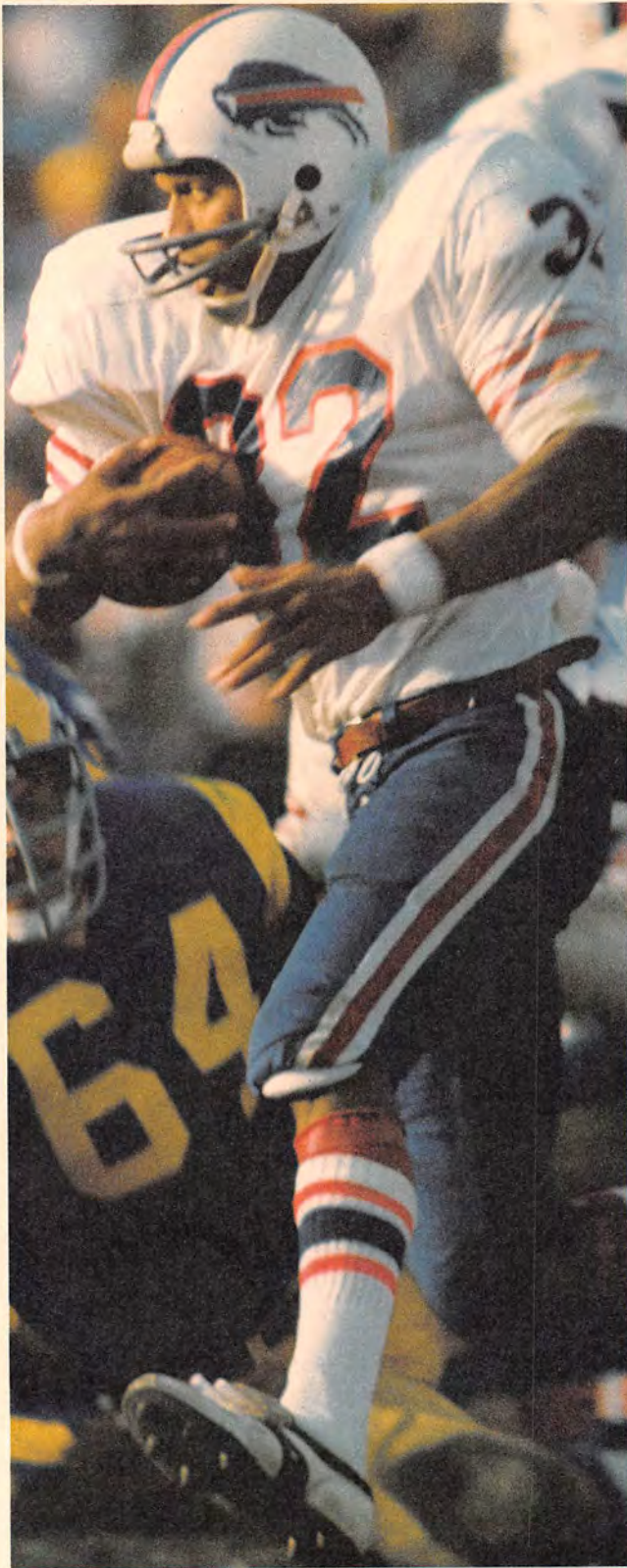
Roger Staubach closed out his 11-year NFL career after the 1979 season. Elected in his first year on the ballot, he joins Simpson as the first Heisman Trophy winners to gain admission to the Hall. Staubach was honored as college football's best player in 1963 while a junior at the U.S. Naval Academy. A 6-3, 202-pound quarterback, he was drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs and the Dallas Cowboys in 1964. After his service commitment was fulfilled, Staubach, 27, joined the Cowboys in 1969. He started only two games in each of his first two years, but then won the No. 1 job in the eighth game of the '71 campaign. The Cowboys did not lose again that year, taking the final seven regular-season games before defeating Minnesota and San Francisco in the playoffs and Miami in the Super Bowl. In his tenure as starting quarterback, Staubach guided Dallas to 85 victories in 115 tries (74%), four NFC titles, and two Super Bowl champion-



ROGER STAUBACH

Darryl Norenberg

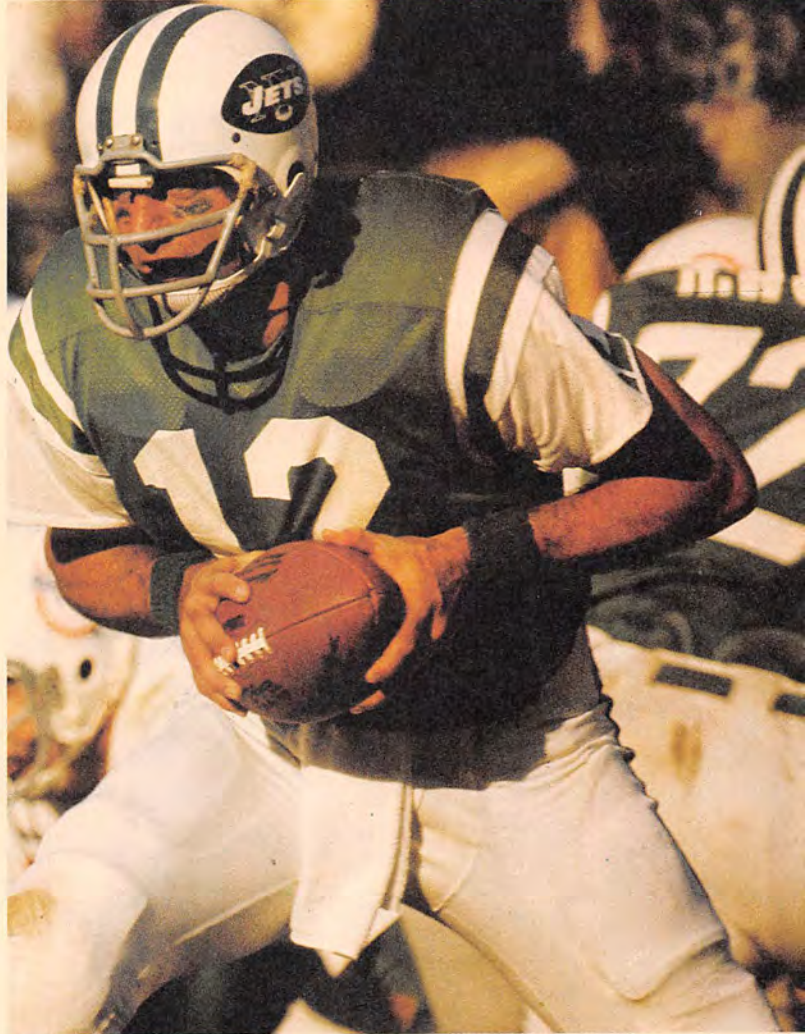
ships. He completed 1,685 passes in 2,958 attempts (57%) for 22,700 yards and 153 touchdowns. His ability to scramble added 2,264 yards and 20 TDs. Called "the greatest competitor I have ever seen" by Dallas coach Tom Landry, Staubach was at his best when things seemed their worst for his team. The Cowboys' starman staged 23 fourth-quarter, come-from-behind victories, more than half of them in the final two minutes of a game.



O.J. SIMPSON

Darryl Norenberg

Another stellar quarterback, Joe Namath, enters the Hall this summer. Called "the greatest athlete I ever coached" by Paul "Bear" Bryant, Namath guided Alabama to three straight bowl appearances and then was selected in the first round of the 1965 draft by the St. Louis Cardinals and the New York Jets. He signed with the Jets for a reported \$400,000, at the time the most lucrative contract in football, and that, together with Namath's skills and style, brought



Mitchell B. Reibel/FOTOSPORT

JOE NAMATH

added attention and excitement to the AFL and helped lead to the merger with the NFL in 1966. Namath was the league's Rookie of the Year, then passed for over 3,000 yards in his next three seasons, including a record 4,007 yards in 1967. Though he did not miss a game in his first five years, he was later beset by wrist and shoulder injuries and underwent four knee operations. He finished his 13-year career with the Los Angeles Rams in 1977, having completed 1,886 passes in 3,762 attempts for 27,663 yards and 173 touchdowns. For all his accomplishments, Namath will be remembered best for Super Bowl III, in which he publicly guaranteed and then directed a 16-7 victory over the heavily favored Baltimore Colts. More than anything else, that game won acceptance for the AFL. Namath is the first Jet player elected to the Hall, where he joins his former coach, Weeb Ewbank, who was admitted in 1978.

Frank Gatski is the twelfth Cleveland player to be enshrined. He played his collegiate ball at Marshall and finished at Auburn before joining the pro ranks in 1946. As the offensive center, he led the Browns to four All-America Football Conference crowns and three National Football League titles. He spent his last season with the Detroit Lions, who defeated the Browns, 59-14, for the 1957 NFL championship. At 6-3 and 240 pounds, Gatski was a durable performer. He didn't miss a game in his 12-year career.

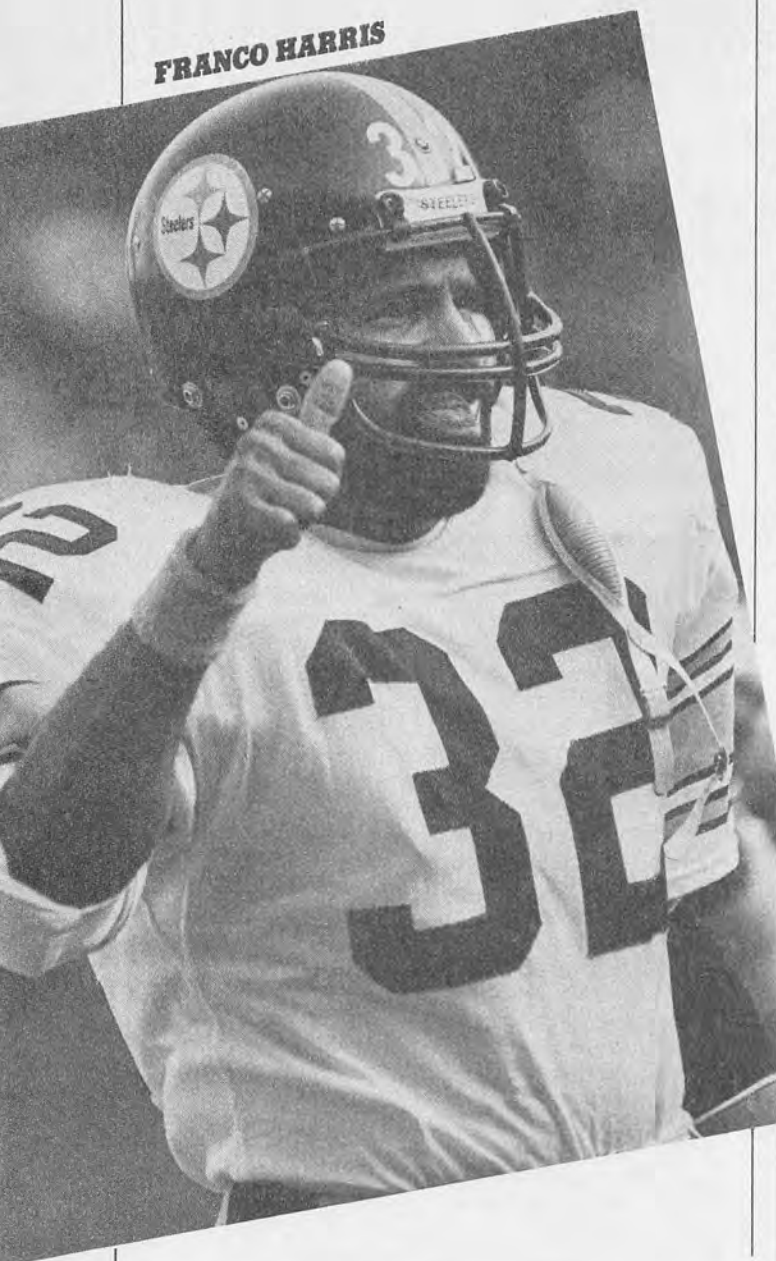
Pete Rozelle was elected to the Hall of Fame in his 25th year as NFL commissioner. For more on his accomplishments and on the development of the league during his tenure, see page 20.

continued

HALL OF FAME

continued

FRANCO HARRIS



Walter Payton of the Chicago Bears broke the NFL career rushing record (12,312 yards) on October 7 last year in the sixth game of the season. Established by Jim Brown, who spent nine years with the Cleveland Browns, the mark had stood since 1965.

Payton entered the contest, against the New Orleans Saints, 66 yards shy of Brown. He remained a stride behind by halftime. Then, on the second play from scrimmage after intermission, Payton took a pitchout from quarterback Jim McMahon and ran left behind fullback Matt Suhey for six yards. He finished the game with 154 yards, the 59th time he gained at least 100 yards. That shattered a record he had shared with Brown. Payton concluded the year with 1,684 yards, which raised his total to 13,309 after a decade in Chicago. Brown, however, retains the league's efficiency standard: 5.2 yards per carry (4.4 for Payton).

On his way to the top, Payton first had to pass Franco Harris, in second place with a 325-yard lead at the start of 1984. But Harris, after 12 years in Pittsburgh, ran into a contract disagreement with the Steelers. Signed by Seattle, he gained just 170 yards in eight games before being released by the Seahawks with a grand total of 12,120 yards.

Nine of the game's top 20 rushers were active last season. John Riggins, in his thirteenth year in the NFL, became just the fifth player in league history to reach the 10,000-yard plateau. His 1,239 yards and 14 touchdowns moved him up one notch in the rankings, ahead of Joe Perry, and helped the Redskins to their third straight division title. With 96 TDs, Riggins ranks second to Brown (106).

Tony Dorsett and Earl Campbell each advanced one place on the rushing chart a year ago. Both did so at the expense of Jim Taylor. Dorsett, with 1,189 yards for the Dallas Cowboys in '84, raised his eight-year total to 9,525 yards. He needs just 199 yards to pass Perry for the sixth position. Campbell netted 468 yards in a season spent with the Houston Oilers and the New Orleans Saints. He has 8,764 yards after seven years as a pro.

O. J. Anderson advanced eight places, from nineteenth to eleventh, on the strength of his 1,174-yard effort for the St. Louis Cardinals. With 7,364 yards in just six years, Anderson needs 718 to pass Larry Csonka and crack the top 10 rushing ranks.

LEADING RUSHERS

rank	player	yrs.	att.	yds.	avg.	td.
1	WALTER PAYTON	10	3047	13,309	4.4	89
2	Jim Brown	9	2359	12,312	5.2	106
3	FRANCO HARRIS	13	2949	12,120	4.1	91
4	O. J. Simpson	11	2404	11,236	4.7	61
5	JOHN RIGGINS	13	2740	10,675	3.9	96
6	Joe Perry	16	1929	9723	5.0	71
7	TONY DORSETT	8	2136	9525	4.5	59
8	EARL CAMPBELL	7	2029	8764	4.3	73
9	Jim Taylor	10	1941	8597	4.4	83
10	Larry Csonka	11	1891	8081	4.3	64
11	O. J. ANDERSON	6	1690	7364	4.4	40
12	Leroy Kelly	10	1727	7274	4.2	74
13	John Henry Johnson	13	1571	6803	4.3	48
14	CHUCK MUNCIE	9	1561	6702	4.3	71
15	Mark van Eeghen	10	1652	6651	4.0	37
16	Lawrence McCutcheon	10	1521	6578	4.3	26
17	MIKE PRUITT	9	1593	6540	4.1	47
18	WILBERT MONTGOMERY	8	1465	6538	4.5	45
19	Lydell Mitchell	9	1675	6534	3.9	30
20	Floyd Little	9	1641	6323	3.8	43

Active players in 1984 in CAPS. Pro football Hall of Fame members in italics.



The Sporting News

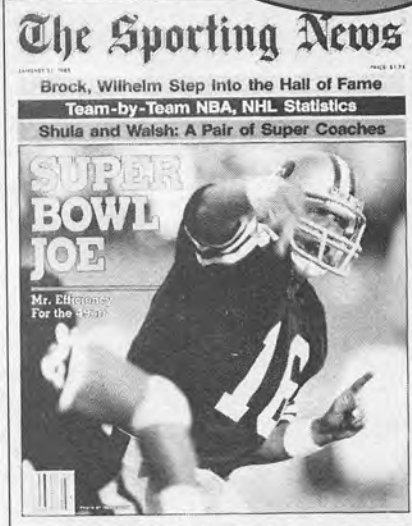
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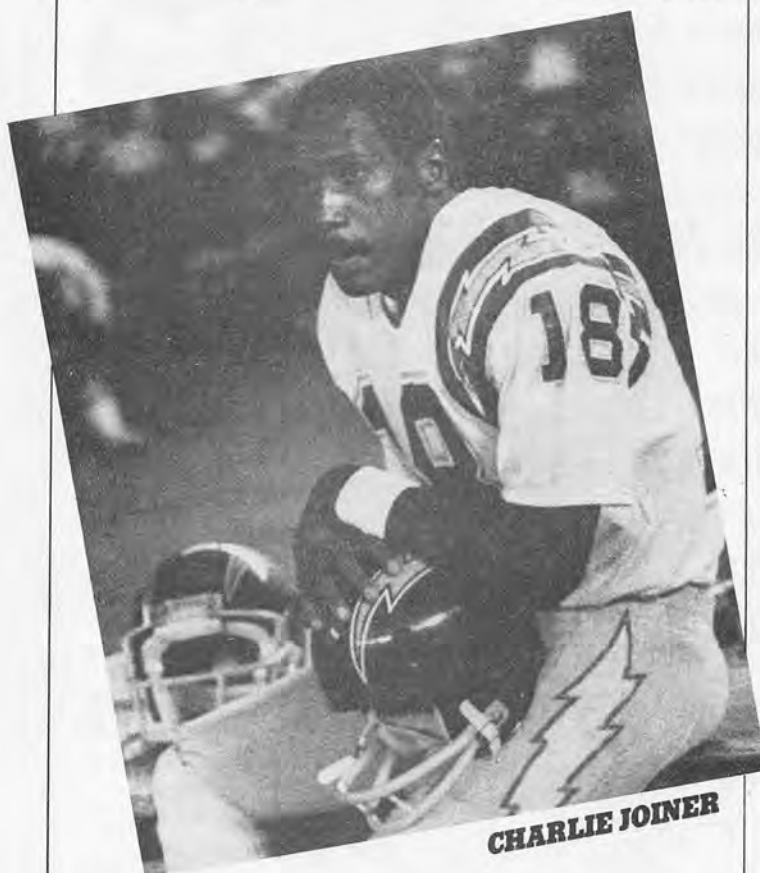
While Payton was running into the record book, Charlie Joiner of the San Diego Chargers caught and then passed Charley Taylor to become pro football's leading receiver. Joiner began last season, his sixteenth, in fourth place, with 596 receptions. But he moved ahead of Raymond Berry (631) and Don Maynard (633) during the year and then on November 25, he grabbed six passes against Pittsburgh to surpass Taylor (649). Joiner had 61 receptions for the year, giving him 657 for his career.

Steve Largent of the Seattle Seahawks caught 74 passes last season and advanced 11 places, from twentieth to ninth, in the rankings. With 545 receptions in nine years, Largent needs 23 more to pass Lionel Taylor for eighth place.

Cliff Branch began the 1984 season tied for the No. 18 spot with Boyd Dowler. With 27 catches, Branch, a 12-year veteran with the Raiders, raised his career total to 501, good for thirteenth place.

Harold Carmichael caught a single pass last year, but that was enough to break a fifth-place tie with Fred Biletnikoff. The former Eagle standout retired after 14 NFL campaigns with 590 receptions.

Jan Stenerud joined the Minnesota Vikings last season and converted 20 of 23 field-goal attempts and 30 of 31 extra points for 90 points. That enabled him to pass Lou Groza



(1,608) for second place on the pro football scoring chart. With 1,613 points after 18 years, Stenerud trails only Hall of Famer George Blanda (2,002).

Another veteran, Mark Moseley, advanced one place, past Gino Cappelletti, a year ago. Moseley kicked 24 field goals and added 48 conversions for 120 points for the Washington Redskins. With 1,224 points in 14 seasons, he ranks No. 7.

Ray Wersching led the NFL in scoring in 1984. His 131 points (25 field goals and 56 PATs) helped lead the San Francisco 49ers to a 15-1 record en route to the Super Bowl. He holds the No. 18 spot on the chart, with 832 points, after a dozen years.

Pat Leahy of the New York Jets scored 89 points (17 field goals and 38 PATs) and earned the twentieth ranking. He has 780 points in 11 seasons.

LEADING RECEIVERS

rank	player	yrs.	no.	yds.	avg.	td.
1	CHARLIE JOINER	16	657	10,774	16.4	56
2	Charley Taylor	13	649	9110	14.0	79
3	Don Maynard	15	633	11,834	18.7	88
4	Raymond Berry	13	631	9275	14.7	68
5	HAROLD CARMICHAEL	14	590	8985	15.2	79
6	Fred Biletnikoff	14	589	8974	15.2	76
7	Harold Jackson	16	579	10,372	17.9	76
8	Lionel Taylor	10	567	7195	12.7	45
9	STEVE LARGENT	9	545	8772	16.1	72
10	Lance Alworth	11	542	10,266	18.9	85
11	Bobby Mitchell	11	521	7954	15.3	65
12	Billy Howton	12	503	8459	16.8	61
13	CLIFF BRANCH	12	501	8685	17.3	67
14T	Tommy McDonald	12	495	8410	17.0	84
14T	Ahmad Rashad	10	495	6831	13.8	44
16	Drew Pearson	11	489	7822	16.0	48
17	Don Hutson	11	488	7991	16.4	99
18	Jackie Smith	16	480	7918	16.5	40
19	Art Powell	10	479	8046	16.8	81
20	Boyd Dowler	12	474	7270	15.4	40

LEADING SCORERS

rank	player	yrs.	td.	pat.	fg.	pts.
1	George Blanda	26	9	934	335	2002
2	JAN STENERUD	18	0	539	358	1613
3	Lou Groza	21	1	810	264	1608
4	Jim Turner	16	1	521	304	1439
5	Jim Bakken	17	0	534	282	1380
6	Fred Cox	15	0	519	282	1365
7	MARK MOSELEY	14	0	426	266	1224
8	Gino Cappelletti	11	42	350	176	1130
9	Don Cockroft	13	0	432	216	1080
10	Garo Yepremian	14	0	444	210	1074
11	Bruce Gossett	11	0	374	219	1031
12	Sam Baker	15	2	428	179	977
13	Lou Michaels	13	1	386	187	955
14	Roy Gerela	11	0	351	184	903
15	Bobby Walston	12	46	365	80	881
16	Pete Gogolak	10	0	344	173	863
17	Errol Mann	11	0	315	177	846
18	RAY WERSCHING	12	0	319	171	832
19	Don Hutson	11	105	172	7	823
20	PAT LEAHY	11	0	306	158	780

Active players in 1984 in CAPS. Pro football Hall of Fame members in italics.

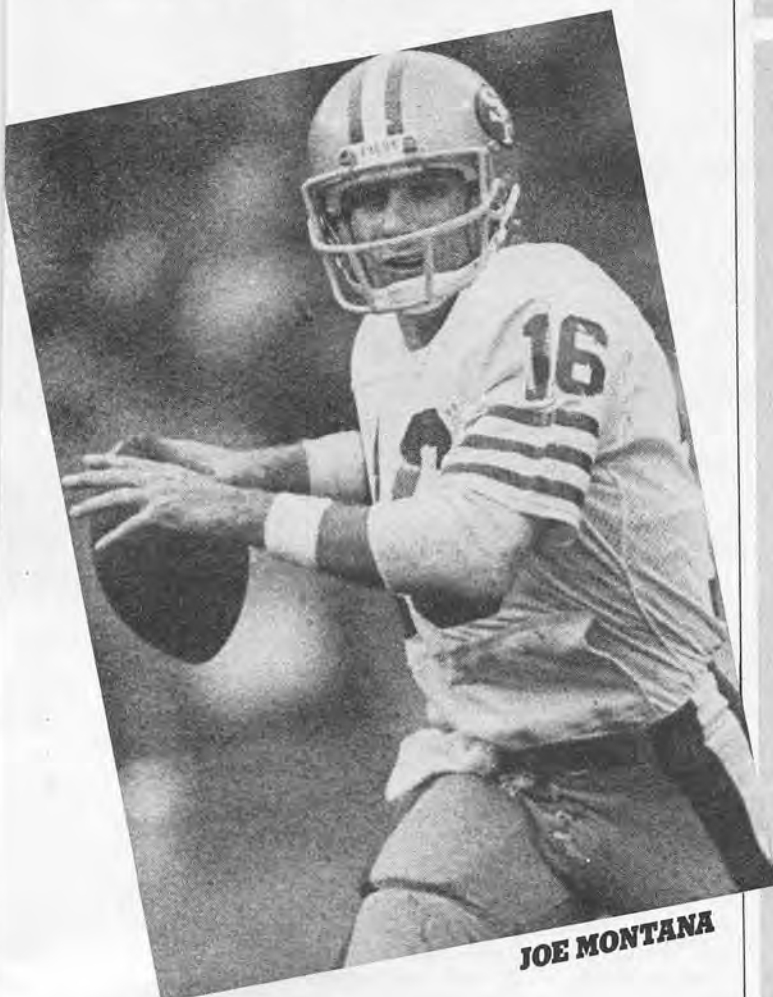
HALL OF FAME

continued

Joe Montana remains the top-ranked quarterback in pro football history. The ex-Notre Dame star was No. 1 after the 1983 season, with an 89.8 rating. Then he completed 279 of 432 passes for 3,630 yards and 28 touchdowns during San Francisco's super season. That earned him a 102.9 rating, tops in the NFC, and improved his overall mark to 92.7 (Hall of Famer Otto Graham is second, at 86.6). Montana has completed 1,324 passes in 2,077 attempts (64%) for 15,609 yards and 106 TDs after just six years.

Two Dallas Cowboy quarterbacks flip-flopped positions on the passing chart. Danny White, who shared duties with Gary Hogeboom, slumped somewhat during the year and saw his career rating dip from 84.2 to 82.7. He is No. 4 in the rankings. Former Cowboy leader Roger Staubach, a member of the Hall of Fame class of 1985, is ranked third, at 83.4.

There are four other active passers among pro football's all-time top 20: the Cincinnati Bengals' Ken Anderson (82.0), at No. 7; the San Diego Chargers' Dan Fouts (81.2), at No. 8; the Washington Redskins' Joe Theismann (79.0), at No. 11; and the Atlanta Falcons' Steve Bartkowski (75.5), at No. 16.



JOE MONTANA

LEADING PASSERS

MINIMUM 1500 ATTEMPTS

rank	player	yrs.	att.	comp.	yds.	td.	int.	rating
1	JOE MONTANA	6	2077	1324	15,609	106	54	92.7
2	Otto Graham	10	2626	1464	23,584	174	135	86.6
3	Roger Staubach	11	2958	1685	22,700	153	109	83.4
4	DANNY WHITE	9	1943	1155	14,754	109	90	82.7
5T	Sonny Jurgensen	18	4262	2433	32,224	255	189	82.6
5T	Len Dawson	19	3741	2136	28,711	239	183	82.6
7	KEN ANDERSON	14	4420	2627	32,497	194	158	82.0
8	DAN FOUTS	12	4380	2585	33,854	201	185	81.2
9	Bart Starr	16	3149	1808	24,718	152	138	80.5
10	Fran Tarkenton	18	6467	3686	47,003	342	266	80.4
11	JOE THEISMANN	11	3301	1877	23,432	152	122	79.0
12T	Bert Jones	10	2551	1430	18,190	124	101	78.2
12T	Johnny Unitas	18	5186	2830	40,239	290	253	78.2
14	Frank Ryan	13	2133	1090	16,042	149	111	77.6
15	Bob Griese	14	3429	1926	25,092	192	172	77.1
16	STEVE BARTKOWSKI	10	3219	1802	22,732	149	140	75.5
17	KEN STABLER	15	3793	2270	27,938	194	222	75.3
18	Norm Van Brocklin	12	2895	1553	23,611	173	178	75.1
19	Sid Luckman	12	1744	904	14,686	137	132	75.0
20	Brian Sipe	10	3439	1944	23,713	154	149	74.8

PASSES ATTEMPTED

1	Fran Tarkenton	6467
2	Johnny Unitas	5186
3	JIM HART	5076
4	John Hadl	4687
5	Roman Gabriel	4498
6	John Brodie	4491
7	KEN ANDERSON	4420
8	Y. A. Tittle	4395
9	DAN FOUTS	4380
10	Norm Snead	4353
11	Sonny Jurgensen	4262
12	JOE FERGUSON	4166
13	George Blanda	4007
14	Terry Bradshaw	3901
15	KEN STABLER	3793
16	Craig Morton	3786
17	Joe Namath	3762
18	Len Dawson	3741
19	Bobby Layne	3700
20	ARCHIE MANNING	3642

PASSES COMPLETED

1	Fran Tarkenton	3686
2	Johnny Unitas	2830
3	KEN ANDERSON	2627
4	JIM HART	2593
5	DAN FOUTS	2585
6	John Brodie	2469
7	Sonny Jurgensen	2433
8	Y. A. Tittle	2427
9	Roman Gabriel	2366
10	John Hadl	2363
11	Norm Snead	2276
12	KEN STABLER	2270
13	JOE FERGUSON	2188
14	Len Dawson	2136
15	Craig Morton	2053
16	Terry Bradshaw	2025
17	ARCHIE MANNING	2011
18	Brian Sipe	1944
19	Bob Griese	1926
20	George Blanda	1911

TOUCHDOWN PASSES

1	Fran Tarkenton	342
2	Johnny Unitas	290
3	Sonny Jurgensen	255
4	John Hadl	244
5	Y. A. Tittle	242
6	Len Dawson	239
7	George Blanda	236
8	John Brodie	214
9	Terry Bradshaw	212
10	JIM HART	209
11T	DAN FOUTS	201
11T	Roman Gabriel	201
13T	Norm Snead	196
13T	Bobby Layne	196
15T	KEN ANDERSON	194
15T	KEN STABLER	194
17	Bob Griese	192
18	Sammy Baugh	186
19	Craig Morton	183
20	JOE FERGUSON	181

YARDS PASSING

1	Fran Tarkenton	47,003
2	Johnny Unitas	40,239
3	JIM HART	34,665
4	DAN FOUTS	33,854
5	John Hadl	33,513
6	Y. A. Tittle	33,070
7	KEN ANDERSON	32,497
8	Sonny Jurgensen	32,224
9	John Brodie	31,548
10	Norm Snead	30,797
11	Roman Gabriel	29,444
12	Len Dawson	28,711
13	Terry Bradshaw	27,989
14	KEN STABLER	27,938
15	Craig Morton	27,908
16	Joe Namath	27,663
17	JOE FERGUSON	27,590
18	George Blanda	26,920
19	Bobby Layne	26,768
20	Bob Griese	25,092

AFC central

CINCINNATI BENGALS

When considering the Cincinnati Bengals of 1985, it is a good idea to discard the first five weeks of the 1984 season, when Sam Wyche, the new coach, was analyzing, sorting out, and getting acquainted. A more accurate gauge of what the Bengals could be can be obtained from the last two months of the season, when they played eight games and lost only twice, to Super Bowl champion San Francisco and powerful Seattle.

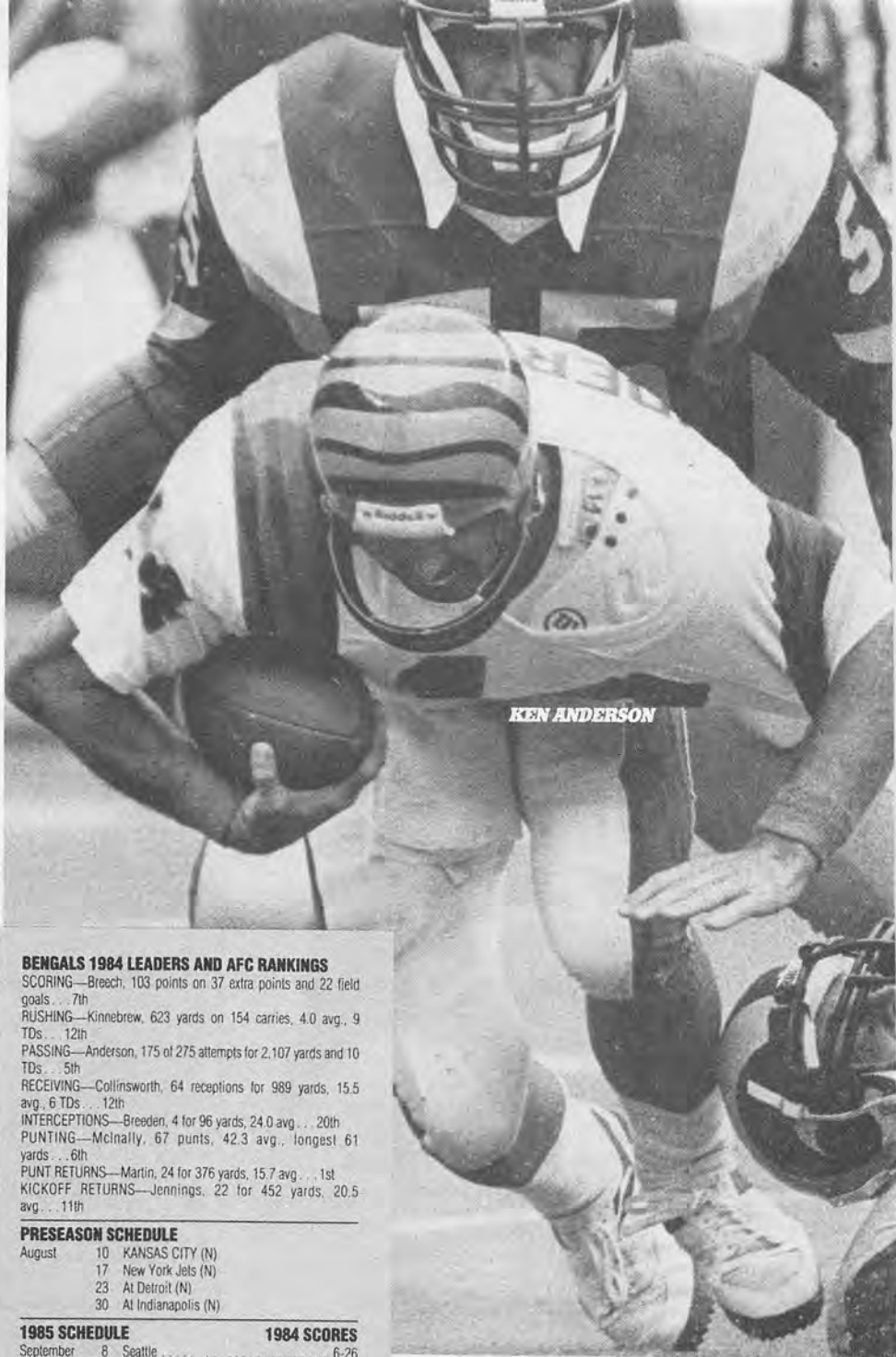
The conclusion is virtually inescapable: the Bengals are comers. No team ever rebounded from a 0-5 start since 1970, the year the old NFL and the former AFL merged into the new NFL. The Bengals almost did it. It required an upset victory by Pittsburgh over the Raiders in the Los Angeles Coliseum, which the Bengals watched on television after barbecuing Buffalo, 52-21, to eliminate Cincinnati. The expectation in southern Ohio is that the Bengals will turn their superior finish into momentum for 1985.

Reality could intrude upon the expectations. Most of the reality concerns the quarterback position. Wyche has his quarterback of the future in place: young left-hander Boomer Esiason. The uncertainty is the identity of the quarterback of the present. Esiason doesn't seem ready at the moment.

The most likely candidate is the greatest quarterback in Bengals' history: Ken Anderson. He is 36 years old and is written off annually, but Anderson was the catalyst for the late-season rally. The Bengals performed best when he was behind the center. Anderson has been cursed by a lot of nagging injuries in the last few years, but he says, "As long as the game is still fun and as long as I feel physically well enough to play and play well, I'll continue to play." Wyche has to prowl the sidelines with his fingers crossed when Anderson is in the game. Ken missed five games and parts of two others last year with back spasms and a shoulder separation. If Cincinnati is to have a happy ending this season, Anderson must remain healthy.

One thing which might help Anderson remain intact is that the Bengals seem to be constructing a workable running game again. They have a young guy named Larry Kinnebrew who appears to be the second coming of Pete Johnson. Kinnebrew is not built quite in the dune buggy image of Johnson, but at 6-foot-1 and 252 pounds, he inflicts pain when opposing players tackle him. In his first NFL start last November, he scored four touchdowns against the Houston Oilers. "He's like Pete," saluted Oiler linebacker Robert Brazile, "because you know he's going to get the ball in a short-yardage situation and he's still tough to stop." It was no coincidence that the Cincinnati offense played its first consistent game of the season that day, winning 31-13.

The Bengals also got a massive lift when the USFL's Tampa Bay Bandits decided that all-star wide receiver Cris Collinsworth was a lux-



BENGALS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Breech, 103 points on 37 extra points and 22 field goals. . . 7th
RUSHING—Kinnebrew, 623 yards on 154 carries, 4.0 avg., 9 TDs. . . 12th
PASSING—Anderson, 175 of 275 attempts for 2,107 yards and 10 TDs. . . 5th
RECEIVING—Collinsworth, 64 receptions for 989 yards, 15.5 avg., 6 TDs. . . 12th
INTERCEPTIONS—Breedon, 4 for 96 yards, 24.0 avg., 20th
PUNTING—McInally, 67 punts, 42.3 avg., longest 61 yards. . . 6th
PUNT RETURNS—Martin, 24 for 376 yards, 15.7 avg., 1st
KICKOFF RETURNS—Jennings, 22 for 452 yards, 20.5 avg., 11th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August 10 KANSAS CITY (N)
17 New York Jets (N)
23 At Detroit (N)
30 At Indianapolis (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September	8	Seattle	6-26
	15	At St. Louis	—
	22	SAN DIEGO	—
	30	At Pittsburgh (N)	17-38
October	6	NEW YORK JETS	23-43
	13	NEW YORK GIANTS	—
	20	At Houston	31-13
	27	PITTSBURGH	22-20
November	3	At Buffalo	52-21
	10	CLEVELAND	12-9
	17	At Los Angeles Raiders	—
	24	At Cleveland	20-17
December	1	HOUSTON	13-3
	8	DALLAS	—
	15	At Washington	—
	22	At New England	14-20

ury they couldn't afford. He had been under contract to the Bandits but performed nobly as a lame-duck player. He led the Bengals with 64 catches for 989 yards and six touchdowns and should be more effective than ever now that he is sure of his future.

The question is who will line up opposite Collinsworth now that Isaac Curtis has retired. Among the candidates are Steve Kreider, young Mike Martin, and David Verser, a disappointment since the Bengals chose him No. 1 five years ago. But in the April draft, the Bengals received one of the great bargains in recent years. Eddie Brown, the University of Miami receiver, was generally regarded as one of the top five athletes available. But, unaccountably, 12 teams passed on him in the first round. The Bengals, with the thirteenth pick, moved quickly to take him.

M. L. Harris has been a capable replacement at tight end since Dan Ross defected to the USFL. He caught 48 passes for a 15.8-yard average last year. The Bengals throw to their backs a lot. The Nos. 3 and 4 receivers were running backs Stanford Jennings (35

catches and three touchdowns) and James Brooks (33 catches and two touchdowns). Brooks may be capable of much more now that he has had a year in the Bengals' system.

The Cincinnati line, tutored by Jim McNally, one of the better coaches in the NFL, should be more dominant as the youngsters, center Dave Rimington and guard Brian Blados, mature. It will be one of the league's biggest, with all-pro Anthony Munoz (278) and Mike Wilson

(271) at tackle, Blados (295) and Max Montoya (275), at guard and Rimington (288).

Once the Bengals started winning last year, the 49ers and the Seahawks were the only teams which scored more than 21 points against them in one game. It is a signal that the rebuilt Cincinnati defense is now a factor.

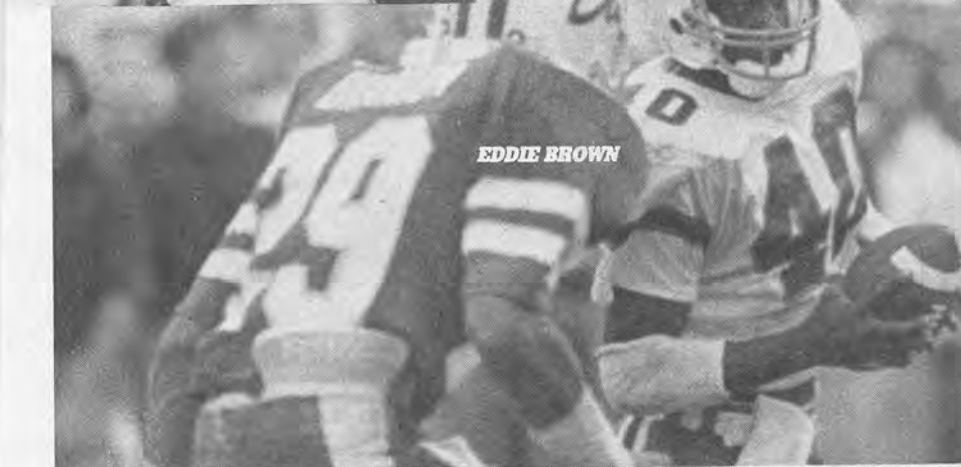
The line is heavily experienced. End Eddie Edwards is a big-play specialist. He recovered three fumbles and had nine quarterback sacks. Ross Browner, the other end, had eight sacks and 48 solo tackles. Nose tackle Tim Krumrie had an outstanding year, with 57 solo tackles and five sacks. There is depth, too. Pete Koch played little as a rookie last year after being selected in the first round of the draft, but the Bengals think he has a future. Glen Collins is another experienced backup.

There is plenty of experience, too, in the linebacking. Reggie Williams's ninth season was one of his best. He intercepted two passes, had nine sacks, and led the team in tackles. Jeff Schuh is the other outside backer. Glenn Cameron, who begins his eleventh season, lines up inside with Ron Simpkins.

The Bengals have a number of defensive backs who are just approaching maturation. Safeties Bobby Kemp and Robert Jackson are entering their fifth season, cornerback Ray Horton his third. Backup corner Jimmy Turner also enters his third. The only starting defensive back with much mileage is cornerback Louis Breeden, 32.



ROBERT JACKSON



EDDIE BROWN



BRIAN BLADOS



ANTHONY MUNOZ

Cinci used its second first-round pick to select Emmanuel King of Alabama, who could turn out to be an A.J. Duhe type of player for them. He can be used as a blitzing linebacker or as a down lineman. The draft also brought a useful linebacker, Carl Zander of Tennessee, and one of the nation's top defensive linemen, Tony Degrade of Texas, who probably lasted until the middle rounds due to his lack of height. He's 6-2 but weighs 287 pounds.

BENGALS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	college
40	Alexander, Charles	RB	6-1	226	28	7	LSU
14	Anderson, Ken	QB	6-3	212	36	15	Augustana
53	Barker, Leo	LB	6-2	227	26	2	New Mexico St.
41	Bird, Steve	WR	5-11	182	25	8	Kentucky
74	Blados, Brian	T	6-4	295	23	2	North Carolina
61	Bojarsky, Jerry	NT	6-3	290	26	5	Pittsburgh
3	Brecht, Jim	K	5-6	161	29	7	California
34	Breeden, Louis	CB	5-11	185	32	8	N.C. Central
21	Brooks, James	RB	5-10	182	27	5	Auburn
79	Browner, Ross	DE	6-3	261	31	8	Notre Dame
50	Cameron, Glenn	LB	6-2	228	32	11	Florida
76	Collins, Glen	DE	6-6	265	26	4	Mississippi St.
30	Collins, Larry	RB	6-1	219	22	8	Rice
80	Collinsworth, Cris	WR	6-5	192	26	4	Florida
73	Edwards, Eddie	DE	6-5	256	31	9	Miami, Fla.
7	Eslason, Boomer	QB	6-4	220	24	2	Maryland
33	Farley, John	RB	5-10	202	24	2	Sacramento St.
58	Frazier, Guy	LB	6-2	221	26	5	Wyoming
22	Griffin, James	S	6-2	197	24	3	Middle Tenn.
44	Griffin, Ray	CB	5-10	186	29	8	Ohio St.
83	Harris, M.L.	TE	6-5	238	31	6	Kansas St.
27	Hicks, Bryan	S	6-0	192	28	5	McNeese
82	Holman, Rodney	TE	6-3	232	25	4	Tulane
20	Horton, Ray	CB	5-11	190	25	3	Washington
37	Jackson, Robert	S	5-10	186	27	5	Cent. Michigan
36	Jennings, Stanford	RB	6-1	205	23	2	Furman
26	Kemp, Bobby	S	6-0	191	26	5	Cal-Fullerton
89	Kerr, Don	TE	6-4	225	23	2	Arizona St.
99	Kinlaw, Rodney	NT	6-1	280	23	8	Central St.
28	Kinnbrew, Larry	RB	6-1	255	26	3	Tennessee St.
71	Koch, Pete	DT	6-6	265	23	2	Maryland
64	Kozerski, Bruce	C	6-4	275	23	2	Holy Cross
86	Kreider, Steve	WR	6-3	192	27	7	Lehigh
69	Krumrie, Tim	NT	6-2	262	25	3	Wis. Madison
43	Lewis, Mike	WR	6-3	185	24	8	Maryland
55	Maidlow, Steve	LB	6-2	234	25	3	Michigan St.
88	Martin, Mike	WR	5-10	186	25	3	Illinois
87	McNally, Pat	P	6-6	212	32	10	Harvard
65	Montoya, Max	G	6-5	275	29	7	UCLA
78	Munoz, Anthony	T	6-6	278	27	6	Southern Cal.
68	Obrovac, Mike	G	6-6	275	30	5	Bowling Green
12	Peace, Wayne	QB	6-2	215	24	8	Florida
42	Pickering, Clay	WR	6-5	215	24	2	Maine
97	Pillman, Brian	LB	5-10	228	23	2	Miami/OH
51	Razzano, Rick	LB	5-11	227	30	6	Virginia Tech
75	Reimers, Bruce	T	6-7	280	25	2	Iowa State
52	Rimington, Dave	C	6-3	288	23	3	Nebraska
23	Rogers, Rick	RB	6-1	210	22	8	Michigan
15	Schonert, Turk	QB	6-1	190	28	6	Stanford
59	Schuh, Jeff	LB	6-3	234	27	5	Minnesota
25	Simmons, John	CB	5-11	192	27	5	SMU
56	Simpkins, Ron	LB	6-1	235	27	5	Michigan
96	Singleton, John	DE	6-6	260	29	8	Texas-El Paso
47	Smith, Darrell	WR	6-2	195	24	8	Central St.
62	Smith, Gary	G	6-2	265	25	2	Virginia Tech
39	Smith, Terry	WR	6-1	183	23	8	Indiana
35	Turner, Jimmy	CB	6-0	187	26	3	UCLA
81	Verser, David	WR	6-1	202	27	5	Kansas
84	Williams, Gary	WR	6-2	215	26	2	Ohio St.
57	Williams, Reggie	LB	6-0	228	31	10	Dartmouth
77	Wilson, Mike	T	6-5	271	30	8	Georgia

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Brown, Eddie	WR	6-0	185	Miami
1	King, Emanuel	LB	6-4	245	Alabama
2	Zander, Carl	LB	6-2	235	Tennessee
3	Thomas, Sean	DB	6-0	190	TCU
4	Tuggle, Anthony	DB	6-1	211	Nicholls St.
5	Degrade, Tony	DT	6-3	287	Texas
5	Davis, Lee	DB	6-1	198	Mississippi
6	Stokes, Eric	OT	6-3	285	Northeastern
6	Lester, Keith	TE	6-5	244	Murray St.
7	Locklin, Kim	RB	6-0	200	New Mexico St.
7	Walter, Joe	OT	6-6	290	Texas Tech
8	Strobel, Dave	LB	6-3	230	Iowa
9	Cruise, Keith	DE	6-3	260	Northwestern
10	King, Bernard	LB	6-1	228	Syracuse
11	Stanfield, Harold	TE	6-3	244	Mississippi Col.
12	Garza, Louis	OT	6-3	300	New Mexico St.

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Make no mistake about it, the only similarity between the defending champions of the AFC Central and those teams which won four Super Bowls is that they all were coached by Chuck Noll. Most of the Super Bowl Steelers are gone now. Terry Bradshaw and Franco Harris were among the last to leave, and the departures were bitter. John Stallworth made a miraculous comeback, Mike Webster remains among the better centers, and Donnie Shell still makes big plays at strong safety. But the Steelers are a C. Noll Production. That's why this team could be even better than the '84 division champions, even though it expects another stiff challenge from Cincinnati.

The changeover at quarterback was remarkable. Noll dealt for Miami's David Wood-

ley, who played to the coach's satisfaction until he got hurt early in the year. Then Mark Malone, whose principal distinction for five previous seasons was his facial resemblance to actor Tom Selleck, became the sort of quarterback the Steelers had hoped he would be when they drafted him No. 1 out of Arizona State. Malone started 11 games and threw 16 touchdown passes, but his most significant statistic was the team's won-lost record under his lead: 7-4. Big and strong-armed, Malone needs to make decisions more acutely and to sharpen his passing accuracy. But he dials the right number with his teammates and that should take him far.

Malone was the beneficiary of two dramatic events in the Pittsburgh passing game. Stallworth, held back by injuries the last few years,

MARK MALONE

STEELERS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Anderson, 117 points on 45 extra points and 24 field goals... 1st
RUSHING—Pollard, 851 yards on 213 carries, 4.0 avg., 6 TDs... 6th
PASSING—Malone, 147 of 272 attempts for 2,137 yards and 16 TDs... 9th
RECEIVING—Stallworth, 80 receptions for 1,395 yards, 17.4 avg., 11 TDs... 2nd
INTERCEPTIONS—Shell, 7 for 61 yards, 8.7 avg., 1 TD... 4th
PUNTING—Colquitt, 70 punts, 41.2 avg., longest 62 yards... 11th
PUNT RETURNS—Lipps, 53 for 656 yards, 12.4 avg., 1 TD... 2nd
KICKOFF RETURNS—Erenberg, 28 for 575 yards, 20.5 avg... 12th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	10	At Tampa Bay (N)
	17	At Minnesota (N)
	23	At St. Louis (N)
	30	NEW YORK GIANTS (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September	8	INDIANAPOLIS	16-17
	16	At Cleveland (N)	10-20
	22	HOUSTON	35-7
	30	CINCINNATI (N)	38-17
October	6	At Miami	7-31
	13	At Dallas	—
	20	ST. LOUIS	—
	27	At Cincinnati	20-22
November	3	CLEVELAND	23-20
	10	At Kansas City	27-37
	17	At Houston	20-23
	24	WASHINGTON	—
December	1	DENVER	—
	5	At San Diego (N)	52-24
	15	BUFFALO	—
	21	At New York Giants	—

1984 SCORES



JOHN
STALLWORTH

relocated his prime and had the season of his outstanding career: 80 catches for 1,395 yards and 11 touchdowns. He was voted the team's most valuable player. The other notable occurrence was the emergence of Louis Lipps as the offensive rookie who made the greatest impact with the Steelers since Franco's first year in 1972. Lipps scored 10 touchdowns (one on a 76-yard punt return), caught 45 passes for a 19.1-yard average, and led the AFC with 656 punt-return yards. He was the AFC's offensive rookie of the year.

Malone was not the only latent developer for the Steelers' attack. Walter Abercrombie finally got it into high gear in the last half of the season, averaging 80 yards rushing in the last five games. The plugger of the ground game is Frank Pollard, who ran for 851 yards. Rich Erenberg surprised as a rookie and was helpful as a spot player, especially as a pass receiver coming out of the backfield in the manner of Rocky Bleier.

If Bennie Cunningham can avoid injuries, he should reclaim his tight-end spot. The Steelers have the reserve wide receivers to play a number of flood formations, which make use of the skills of Wayne Capers, Weegie Thompson, and Calvin Sweeney.

The offense might not have gone anywhere except that the line suddenly jelled late in the year. That is especially true of guards Craig Wolfley and rookie Terry Long and Tunch Ilkin, an undersized tackle. Webster is the anchor, with unheralded Pete Rostovsky trying to beat

out veterans Steve August, the ex-Seahawk, and Ray Snell, the ex-Buccaneer.

Defensively, the feature is an old Steeler trademark: linebackers. Two of them, Robin Cole and Mike Merriweather, made the Pro Bowl. Merriweather had a phenomenal year on the outside. He set a Pittsburgh record with 15 sacks—the backers accounted for half the team's 47 sacks—and led the team in tackles. Cole has found a home at inside linebacker after playing outside for many years. Jack Lambert suffered a toe injury which kept him out of action for most of the season, and the future of the great old pro is uncertain. In his absence, David Little played well. The other outside linebacker is Bryan Hinkle, whose 4.6 speed complements Merriweather.

The Steelers, under new defensive coordinator Tony Dungy, did more blitzing than Noll usually risks, but part of the reason lay in nagging injuries to Keith Willis and Keith Gary, the two down linemen who are the foremost pass rushers. Both had off years. Gary Dunn is one of the NFL's more effective nose tackles, and Noll, a man stingy with praise, said, "He had a great year." John Goodman is a good all-round end and Edmund Nelson can play any of the three down positions.

There could be some movement in the secondary, although Dwayne Woodruff is considered a solid corner and the safeties, Donnie Shell on the strong side and Eric Williams at free, had solid years. Shell led the team in interceptions once again, with seven. Two of them were in crucial situations in must games against the Raiders and Cleveland. Sam

Washington started at the other corner. He had a very good first half, but then teams began to pick on his one obvious handicap: his lack of height (5-foot-8). Chris Brown may push him in his second pro season.

Gary Anderson missed four of five field goals in the playoffs, but he is amazingly accurate during the regular season. He won the last two AFC scoring championships and had a 24-for-32 field-goal record last year. Craig Colquitt averaged 41.2 yards on his 70 punts, but Noll wasn't thrilled by his inconsistency.

The Steelers' didn't have a glamorous draft, but it may be a useful one. Darryl Sims, the Wisconsin defensive lineman who was the

most valuable player in the Japan Bowl, was the first pick. He was an up-and-down player in college, but Noll has a knack for getting the most out of those. Mark Behning, the Nebraska tackle, should put some heat into the offensive line. LSU safety Liffort Hobley made all Southeast Conference with six interceptions. Two linebackers, Greg Carr of Auburn and Cam Jacobs of Kentucky, are opposites. Carr is very brainy and Jacobs is a wild man who must be tamed.

STEELERS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos.	ht.	wt.	age	ext.	college
34	Abercrombie, Walter	RB	6-0	210	26	4	Baylor
1	Anderson, Gary	PK	5-11	170	26	4	Syracuse
77	August, Steve	OT	6-5	258	31	9	Tulsa
54	Bingham, Craig	LB	6-2	220	26	4	Syracuse
71	Boures, Emil	OL	6-1	261	25	4	Pitt
23	Brown, Chris	DB	6-0	195	23	2	Notre Dame
79	Brown, Larry	OT	6-4	270	36	15	Kansas
10	Campbell, Scott	QB	6-0	201	23	2	Purdue
80	Capers, Wayne	WR	6-2	193	24	3	Kansas
78	Calano, Mark	DE	6-3	265	23	2	Valdosta St
33	Clayton, Harvey	CB	5-9	180	24	3	Florida St
98	Cleveland, DeCarlos	DE	6-3	268	24	1	Kent State
56	Cole, Robin	LB	6-2	225	30	9	New Mexico
5	Colquitt, Craig	P	6-1 1/2	182	31	7	Tennessee
40	Corley, Anthony	RB	6-0	210	25	2	Nevada-Reno
89	Cunningham, Bennie	TE	6-5	255	31	10	Clemson
67	Dunn, Gary	NT	6-3	265	32	9	Miami
	Echols, Terry	LB	6-0	220	23	2	Marshall
24	Erenberg, Rich	RB	5-10	200	23	2	Colgate
92	Gary, Keith	DE	6-3	260	26	3	Oklahoma
26	Gillespie, Scoop	RB	5-10	185	23	2	William Jewell
95	Goodman, John	DE	6-6	255	27	5	Oklahoma
68	Graham, Russ	OT	6-4	265	24	1	Oklahoma St
53	Hinkle, Bryan	LB	6-2	220	26	4	Oregon
62	Ilkin, Tunch	OT	6-3	255	28	6	Indiana State
29	Johnson, Ron	S	5-11	195	29	8	E Michigan
90	Kohrs, Bob	LB	6-3	235	27	5	Arizona St
84	Koldziejewski, Chris	TE	6-3	231	24	2	Wyoming
58	Lambert, Jack	LB	6-4	220	33	12	Kent State
83	Lipps, Louis	WR	5-10	190	23	2	Southern Miss
50	Little, David	LB	6-1	230	26	5	Florida
74	Long, Terry	G	5-11	272	26	2	East Carolina
51	Madison, L.E.	LB	6-1	225	23	1	Kansas St
16	Malone, Mark	QB	6-4	218	27	6	Arizona St
66	McJunkin, Kirk	G	6-3 1/2	250	24	1	Texas
57	Merriweather, Mike	LB	6-2	215	25	4	Pacific
81	Nelson, Darrell	TE	6-2	235	24	2	Memphis St
64	Nelson, Edmund	DL	6-3	270	25	4	Auburn
30	Pollard, Frank	RB	5-10	218	28	6	Baylor
60	Rasmussen, Randy	OL	6-1 1/2	253	25	2	Minnesota
88	Rodgers, John	TE	6-2	238	25	4	Louisiana Tech
63	Rostlosky, Pete	OT	6-4	255	24	2	Connecticut
59	Seabaugh, Todd	LB	6-4	225	24	2	San Diego State
31	Shell, Donnie	S	5-11	190	33	12	S.C. State
72	Snell, Ray	OT	6-4	265	27	6	Wisconsin
36	Spencer, Todd	RB	6-0	200	23	2	Southern Cal
	Sutton, Mike	S	6-0	190	24	1	William & Mary
82	Stallworth, John	WR	6-2	191	33	12	Alabama A&M
85	Sweeney, Calvin	WR	6-2	190	30	6	Southern Cal
87	Thompson, Weegie	WR	6-6	210	24	2	Florida State
38	Veals, Elton	RB	5-11	230	24	2	Tulane
41	Washington, Sam	CB	5-8	180	25	4	Miss. Valley
52	Webster, Mike	C	6-1 1/2	250	33	12	Wisconsin
21	Williams, Eric	S	6-1	183	25	3	N.C. State
28	Williams, Robert	S	5-11	202	23	2	E Illinois
93	Willis, Keith	DE	6-1	260	26	4	Northeastern
61	Wingle, Blake	G	6-2	267	25	3	UCLA
73	Woffley, Craig	G	6-1	255	27	6	Syracuse
19	Woodley, David	QB	6-2	204	27	6	LSU
49	Woodruff, Dwayne	CB	6-0	198	28	7	Louisville
22	Woods, Rick	S	6-0	191	26	4	Boise St.

DRAFTES

rd	name	pos.	ht.	wt.	college
1	Sims, Darryl	DE	6-3	265	Wisconsin
2	Behning, Mark	OT	6-6	291	Nebraska
3	Hobley, Liffort	DB	6-0	207	LSU
4	Turk, Dan	C	6-4	259	Wisconsin
5	Jacobs, Cam	LB	6-1	219	Kentucky
6	Carr, Gregg	LB	6-1	218	Auburn
7	Andrews, Alan	TE	6-5	235	Rutgers
8	Newsome, Harry	P	6-0	186	Wake Forest
9	Small, Fred	LB	5-11	231	Washington
9	Harris, Andre	DB	5-11	184	Minnesota
10	White, Oliver	TE	6-1	237	Kentucky
11	Malichuk, Terry	DB	6-1	197	Missouri
12	Sanchez, Jeff	DB	5-11	180	Georgia

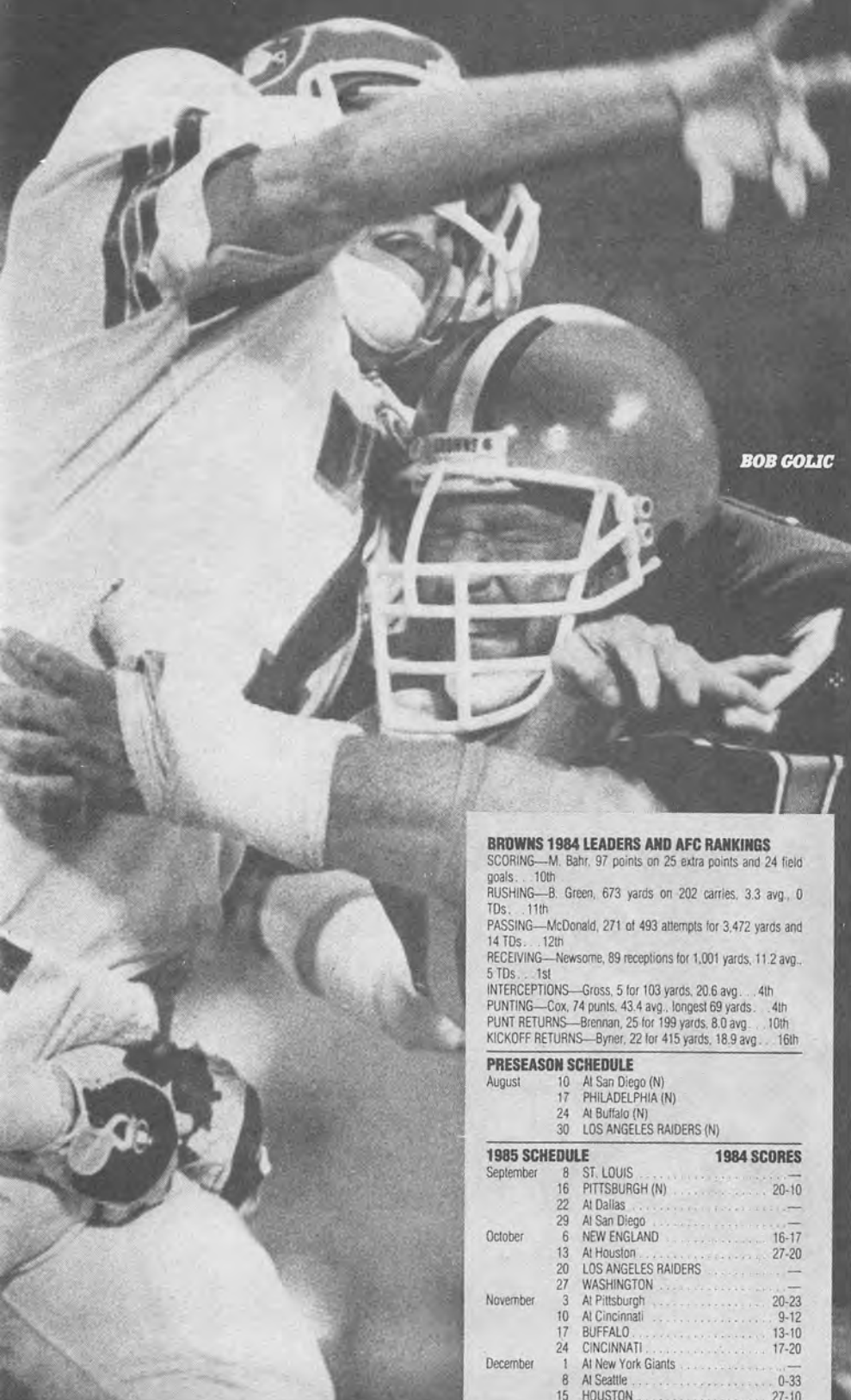


KEITH GARY



DONNIE SHELL

WALTER ABERCROMBIE



BOB GOLIC

CLEVELAND BROWNS

The Browns discovered early last season that Paul McDonald was not a left-handed Bart Starr, and that contributed to head coach Sam Rutigliano's firing. So now the present seems to be laid out. Gary Danielson, obtained in a trade with Detroit, will be the transitional quarterback for a couple of seasons. But the future belongs to Bernie Kosar, for whom Cleveland paid a bundle in draft choices for the opportunity to select him.

In the meantime, young coach Marty Schottenheimer, who went 4-4 after relieving Rutigliano, will depend on his formidable defense to get him through this season. It's not a bad crutch on which to lean. The Browns finished second in defense in the entire NFL and first in the AFC. It is a lineup loaded with studs. Wisely, the Browns concentrated their ticket marketing on the defense. It allowed the fewest total yards, first downs, passing yards, and touchdowns in the conference. That is where their stars reside.

Left outside linebacker Clay Matthews not only was chosen all-pro, but Schottenheimer also said, "He had the best season I've ever seen a linebacker have." Matthews had 12 sacks, 89 solo tackles, forced three fumbles and recovered one, and knocked down seven passes. Inside linebacker Tom Cousineau was a runner-up in the Pro Bowl voting.

Defensive end Reggie Camp had 14 sacks, the second-highest total in the history of the franchise, and nose tackle Bob Golic, a one-time linebacker, has become one of the most effective players at his position in the League.

Free safety Don Rogers, whom Rutigliano described as "causing receivers to hear a cat sipping milk 70 yards away," was named the NFL's defensive rookie of the year. Frank Minnifield, the corner signed away from the USFL, was named to the all-rookie secondary, along with Rogers. Hanford Dixon, the other corner, led the team by knocking down 22 passes.

One nagging imponderable is how linebacker Chip Banks, twice a Pro Bowler, will accept the fact that Cleveland tried to trade him to Buffalo in the Kosar deal. When Banks balked, the Bills accepted the Browns' first-round draft choice in '85 instead.

Keith Baldwin lines up at right end. Eddie Johnson, who led the team in tackles, is the other inside linebacker and Al Gross is the strong safety.

Schottenheimer, who hired seven new coaches, didn't hire some puppet to take over the defense he himself used to run. His nominee is the highly respected Tom Bettis, who ran St. Louis's defense for the previous seven seasons. Schottzy's new offensive coordinator is Joe Pendrys, the former head coach of the USFL Pittsburgh Maulers, and the quarterback coach is the freshly retired Greg Landry, who played with Danielson in Detroit and should be an excellent tutor for Kosar.

Pendrys has a huge task in front of him. The Browns scored only 250 points last year. The only high-quality skill player on the roster is Ozzie Newsome, the esteemed tight end who caught 89 passes for 1,001 yards and a pair of touchdowns. McDonald threw for 3,472 yards and 14 touchdowns, but if the Browns thought he had a future, why trade for Danielson and draft Kosar at an enormous price? The incumbent had 23 interceptions a year ago, and his arm is not a strong one.

Greg Allen, an All-America at Florida State

BROWNS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—M. Bahr, 97 points on 25 extra points and 24 field goals. . . 10th
 RUSHING—B. Green, 673 yards on 202 carries, 3.3 avg., 0 TDs. . . 11th
 PASSING—McDonald, 271 of 493 attempts for 3,472 yards and 14 TDs. . . 12th
 RECEIVING—Newsome, 89 receptions for 1,001 yards, 11.2 avg., 5 TDs. . . 1st
 INTERCEPTIONS—Gross, 5 for 103 yards, 20.6 avg. . . 4th
 PUNTING—Cox, 74 punts, 43.4 avg., longest 69 yards. . . 4th
 PUNT RETURNS—Brennan, 25 for 199 yards, 8.0 avg. . . 10th
 KICKOFF RETURNS—Byner, 22 for 415 yards, 18.9 avg. . . 16th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

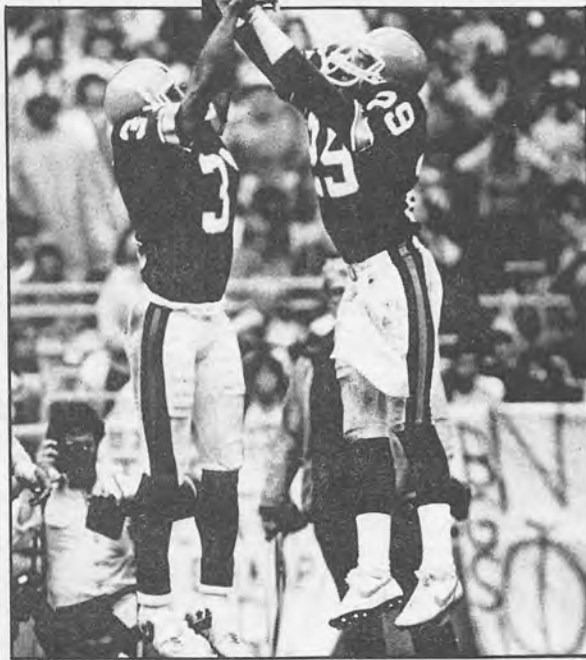
August	10	At San Diego (N)
	17	PHILADELPHIA (N)
	24	At Buffalo (N)
	30	LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September	8	ST. LOUIS	—
	16	PITTSBURGH (N)	20-10
	22	At Dallas	—
	29	At San Diego	—
October	6	NEW ENGLAND	16-17
	13	At Houston	27-20
	20	LOS ANGELES RAIDERS	—
	27	WASHINGTON	—
November	3	At Pittsburgh	20-23
	10	At Cincinnati	9-12
	17	BUFFALO	13-10
	24	CINCINNATI	17-20
December	1	At New York Giants	—
	8	At Seattle	0-33
	15	HOUSTON	27-10
	22	At New York Jets	20-24

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before suffering a knee injury, is an interesting addition to the running game. If he's right again, he is capable of breaking long runs and piling up big-yardage games, something the Browns need. None of the Browns' returning backs is much beyond the acceptable stage. Boyce Green led the team with 673 yards in 202 carries. Aging Mike Pruitt had 506 in 163 and Earnest Byner ran for 426 in 72 carries, a 5.9-yard average, as a rookie. There



OZZIE NEWSOME



CLAY MATTHEWS

is another interesting addition, former Clemson Star Kevin Mack, who comes to the Browns after a couple of years with the USFL Los Angeles Express.

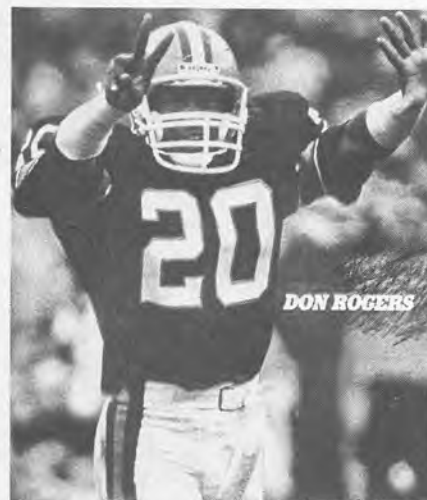
Brian Brennan caught 35 passes and scored three touchdowns as a rookie. His receptions were the most for a Cleveland freshman since Paul Warfield, the Hall of Famer, caught 52 in 1964. Still around are Ricky Feacher (22 receptions for a 17.4-yard average) and Willis Adams (21 for 12.4). There is still a need for a game-breaker. Three wide receivers were drafted in the middle and late rounds, but the best possibility may be little second-year man Bruce Davis, who was seven for 17.0 and two touchdowns as a rookie.

The most alarming statistic for Kosar, whose major flaw is a lack of mobility, may be the 55 sacks surrendered last season. The best young lineman, tackle Cody Risien, is coming off knee surgery. So is sub tackle Bill Contz. Veteran tackle Doug Dieken retired. George Lilja, a castoff center, finished the season as a starting tackle. The guards, one-time all-pro Joe DeLamielleure and Robert Jackson, are solid. But Joe D. is 34 and Jackson is 32. Center Mike Baab is a stabilizer. Mike Krawowicz of Ohio State, drafted in the middle rounds, might figure somewhere.

Place-kicker Matt Bahr had a 24-for-32 field-goal record. Steve Cox had the fifth-best gross average among NFL punters (43.4 yards), but there are too many successful punt returns against the Browns. The opposition averaged 11.4 yards. The kickoff-return coverage is soft, too, and the Browns are in need of return men of their own.



BOYCE GREEN



DON ROGERS

BROWNS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	exp	college
80	Adams, Willis	WR	6-2	200	29	6	Houston
52	Ambrose, Dick	LB	6-0	228	32	10	Virginia
53	Anderson, Stuart	LB	6-1	225	26	4	Virginia
61	Bab, Mike	C	6-4	270	26	4	Texas
9	Bahr, Matt	K	5-10	175	29	7	Penn St.
99	Baldwin, Keith	DE	6-4	270	25	4	Texas A&M
56	Banks, Chip	LB	6-4	223	26	4	Southern Cal
24	Best, Greg	S	5-10	185	25	3	Kansas St.
77	Bolden, Rickey	T	6-6	260	24	2	SMU
47	Brazel, Larry	CB	6-0	184	31	7	Southern Cal
86	Brennan, Brian	WR	5-9	178	23	2	Boston College
49	Burrell, Clinton	S	6-1	192	29	6	LSU
44	Byner, Earnest	RB	5-10	215	23	2	East Carolina
96	Camp, Reggie	DE	6-4	270	24	3	California
75	Contz, Bill	T	6-5	260	24	3	Penn State
50	Cousineau, Tom	LB	6-3	225	28	4	Ohio St.
15	Cox, Steve	P-K	6-4	195	27	5	Arkansas
	Danielson, Gary	QB	6-2	196	34	9	Purdue
85	Davis, Bruce	WR	5-8	160	22	2	Baylor
38	Davis, Johnny	FB	6-1	235	29	8	Alabama
64	DeLamielleure, Joe	G	6-3	260	34	13	Michigan St.
29	Dixon, Hanford	CB	5-11	182	27	5	Southern Miss
74	Farren, Paul	T	6-5	260	25	3	Boston U.
83	Feacher, Ricky	WR	5-10	180	31	10	Miss Valley
10	Flick, Tom	QB	6-3	190	27	4	Washington
94	Franks, Elvis	DE	6-4	265	28	6	Morgan St.
79	Golic, Bob	NT	6-2	260	28	6	Notre Dame
30	Green, Boyce	RB	5-11	215	25	3	Carson-Newman
27	Gross, Al	S	6-3	186	24	3	Arizona
78	Hairston, Carl	DE	6-4	260	33	10	MD (E. Shore)
81	Holt, Harry	TE	6-4	230	28	3	Arizona
68	Jackson, Robert	G	6-5	260	31	11	Duke
51	Johnson, Eddie	LB	6-1	215	26	5	Louisville
1	Johnson, Nate	WR	6-0	195	28	2	Hilldale
90	Jones, Willie	DE	6-4	257	28	4	Florida St.
88	Lewis, Darryl	TE	6-6	226	24	2	Texas-Arlington
62	Lilja, George	T	6-4	262	27	4	Michigan
59	Marshall, David	LB	6-3	220	24	2	Eastern Michigan
57	Matthews, Clay	LB	6-2	235	29	8	Southern Cal
16	McDonald, Paul	QB	6-2	185	27	6	Southern Cal
31	Minnifield, Frank	CB	5-9	180	25	2	Louisville
82	Newsome, Ozzie	TE	6-2	232	29	8	Alabama
58	Nicolas, Scott	LB	6-3	226	25	4	Miami
7	Nugent, Terry	QB	6-4	218	24	2	Colorado St.
43	Pruitt, Mike	FB	6-0	225	31	10	Purdue
72	Puzzuoli, Dave	NT	6-3	260	24	3	Pittsburgh
63	Risien, Cody	T	6-7	280	28	6	Texas A&M
37	Rogers, Chris	S	6-0	195	23	2	Oklahoma St.
20	Rogers, Don	S	6-1	206	23	2	UCLA
87	Stracka, Tim	TE	6-3	225	26	3	Wisconsin
12	Taylor, Jim Bob	QB	6-2	200	26	2	Georgia Tech
89	Walker, Dwight	WR	5-10	185	26	4	Nicholls St.
55	Weathers, Curtis	LB	6-5	230	29	7	Mississippi
25	White, Charles	RB	5-10	190	27	5	Southern Cal
21	Whitwell, Mike	S	6-0	175	27	3	Texas A&M
84	Young, Glen	WR	6-2	205	25	3	Miss. St.

DRAFTTEES

rd	name	pos	ht	wt	college
2	Allen, Greg	RB	5-11	200	Florida St.
2	Krawowicz, Mark	OG	6-3	285	Ohio St.
7	Langhorne, Reginald	WR	6-1	187	Elizabeth City
8	Banks, Fred	WR	5-10	174	Liberty Baptist
10	Williams, Larry	OG	6-5	269	Notre Dame
11	Tucker, Travis	TE	6-3	227	So. Connecticut
12	Swanson, Shane	WR	5-9	200	Nebraska

HOUSTON OILERS

The Houston Oilers have tried just about everything to regain their footing in the AFC Central. Now they are going to try to do it without Earl Campbell. Back when the Oilers were winning regularly and serving as the Pittsburgh Steelers' chief competition, their idea of offense was to run Earl off tackle two or three dozen times a game until he either broke some big runs or battered his tacklers into submission. The Houston attack was limited, since Earl's value was almost strictly as a ball carrier. But together with some hell-for-leather defense, it worked more often than not.

Now Earl is gone and the Oilers are still playing a one-note offensive tune. The one note is Warren Moon, the Canadian League exile who struggled in his first season as an NFL quarterback. Moon is a charismatic player, an outstanding leader, and a pretty fair passer. But in 1984 he demonstrated once again that playing quarterback under Canadian rules on a much larger field is nothing like playing quarterback in the NFL. Yet here is what Hugh Campbell, his coach, had to say about Moon as he entered his second season.

"Warren Moon demonstrated he has the combination of ingredients it takes to be a real superstar in the NFL. He has the leadership qualities, intellectual ability, pure passing talent, ability to pass on the run, and, above all, a great competitive instinct."

A real superstar in the NFL? Campbell must have great foresight, because Moon hasn't yet proved that he is a competent NFL starter.

Campbell himself still has plenty to prove. Coach of the five-time champion Edmonton Eskimos in the Canadian League, for whom Moon quarterbacked, Campbell was a huge disappointment in his only season as coach of the USFL Los Angeles Express, then impressed no one in his first year with the Oilers. One of the knocks against the coach is that he is even more laid back than ex-Oiler coach Bum Phillips, and being laid back is supposed to be one of the major reasons why Bum was fired.

The Oilers lost their first 10 games before splitting their final six. Among the optimists, the three late victories are seen as a jelling, a final coming together and signal that Campbell and Moon have the team headed in the right direction. The skeptics point out that the wins included triumphs over two struggling teams: the New York Jets and Kansas City Chiefs. Possibly the most disturbing statistic was the margin of loss in each of the team's 13 defeats: 10 points, 14, 17, 32, 17, 10, 18, 13, 18, 28, 17, 9, 7.

The Houston offense scored only 240 points. In 11 games, the Oilers scored 17 points or less. In seven games they were held to one touchdown or none. Moon threw for 3,338 yards and a dozen TDs, but his percentage of touchdowns was just 2.7, one of the lowest figures in the league. One of the problems is that the rest of the Houston "skill" players are nobodies. Tim Smith is a competent receiver. He caught 69 passes for 1,141 yards, a 16.5-yard average, and four touchdowns, but he is never mentioned among the NFL's elite. With Campbell gone, the most productive runner is Larry Moriarty, who

OILERS 1984 LEADERS AND AFC RANKINGS

SCORING—Cooper, 46 points on 13 extra points and 11 field goals... 26th
RUSHING—Moriarty, 785 yards on 189 carries, 4.2 avg., 6 TDs... 8th
PASSING—Moon, 259 of 450 attempts for 3,338 yards and 12 TDs... 7th
RECEIVING—T. Smith, 69 receptions for 1,141 yards, 16.5 avg., 4 TDs... 8th
INTERCEPTIONS—Tullis, 4 for 48 yards, 12.0 avg... 24th
PUNTING—James, 88 punts, 39.6 avg., longest 55 yards... 14th
PUNT RETURNS—Roaches, 26 for 152 yards, 5.8 avg... 13th
KICKOFF RETURNS—Roaches, 30 for 679 yards, 22.6 avg... 5th

PRESEASON SCHEDULE

August	3	New York Giants (Hall of Fame game at Canton, OH)
	10	At Los Angeles Rams (N)
	17	At New Orleans (N)
	24	KANSAS CITY (N)
	31	At Dallas (N)

1985 SCHEDULE

September	8	MIAMI	—
	15	At Washington	—
	22	At Pittsburgh	7-35
	29	DALLAS	—
October	6	At Denver	—
	13	CLEVELAND	20-27
	20	CINCINNATI	13-31
	27	At St. Louis	—
November	3	KANSAS CITY	17-16
	10	At Buffalo	—
	17	PITTSBURGH	23-20
	24	SAN DIEGO	14-31
December	1	At Cincinnati	3-13
	8	NEW YORK GIANTS	—
	15	At Cleveland	10-27
	22	At Indianapolis	21-35

WARREN MOON

gained 785 yards, scored six touchdowns, and averaged 4.2 yards a carry. But in truth, he is a mere journeyman.

What the Oilers have is a young, talented offensive line. Mike Munchak made the Pro Bowl as a guard. Bruce Matthews and Harvey Salem are considered potential stars at tackle. Jim Romano, acquired from the Raiders during last season, improves the center position. Dean Steinkuhler, whom the Oilers made the first pick in the 1984 NFL draft, had an immediate impact as a starting guard, but he suffered a knee injury in early November. He is expected to be rehabilitated by opening day. The Oilers may have picked up another stud in this year's draft: Notre Dame's Mike Kelley, who's had some back problems.

Despite all that line talent, Moon was sacked 47 times last year. That's far too much for a quarterback who is supposed to be the

team meal ticket. Either Moon and the linemen have to get on the same course or offensive line coach Bill Walsh has to step up his pass-blocking system.

The only Oiler running back with some wiggle is second-year man Willie Joyner. Moriarty is a plow-horse type; Butch Woolfolk was acquired from the Giants. Mike Holston, Steve Bryant, Eric Mullins, and Herkie Walls all have one thing in common: they haven't demonstrated they can take the multiple-coverage heat off Smith. Moon found his tight ends and H-backs more often than anything else. Tight end Jamie Williams caught 41 passes and H-back Chris Dressel caught 40.

The most consistent offensive weapon was the kicking of Joe Cooper, picked up during the course of the season. He connected on 11 of 13 field goals and all 13 extra points.

The Oilers finished next-to-last in overall defense and dead last in defense against the run. "We had a lot of guys who would have been in the running for the Lady Byng Trophy if this was hockey," cracked Jerry Glanville, the Oilers' defensive coordinator. The Byng is awarded for gentlemanly play.

Some of the Oiler veterans, such as outside linebacker Robert Brazile and inside backer Gregg Bingham, are playing from memory. Bingham is 34, Brazile 32. The best hope for the future is Robert Abraham, Bingham's partner inside. Avon Riley is the other starter outside. Youngsters Tim Joiner, Johnny Meads, and Robert Lyles may get their chance.

The Oilers had only 32 sacks, 11 by defensive end Jesse Baker. Mike Stensrud plays most of the time at nose tackle. Bob Hamm was the other starter at defensive end. In the draft, the Oilers tried to do for their defense

what they did for the offense in the last few years. The top pick, Ray Childress, should turn out to be one of the better all-round ends. Not only is he big, 6-6 and 270, but Childress also has a reputation for whistle-to-whistle effort. The second round brought another potential starter, defensive lineman Richard Byrd of Wisconsin.

There are three veterans in the secondary: corners Steve Brown and Willie Tullis and free safety Carter Hartwig. But the most secure may be Keith Bostic, the third-year strong safety. With their second pick in the first round the Oilers grabbed Wisconsin's Lawrence Johnson, who some scouts thought was the best defensive back in the draft.

OILERS VETERAN ROSTER

no.	name	pos	ht	wt	age	NFL exp	college
56	Abraham, Robert	DE	6-1	230	26	4	Penn St.
29	Aften, Patrick	DB	5-10	173	24	2	Utah St.
75	Baker, Jesse	DE	6-5	271	27	7	Jacksonville St.
54	Bingham, Gregg	LB	6-1	232	34	13	Purdue
25	Bostic, Keith	SS	6-1	210	24	3	Michigan
52	Brazile, Robert	LB	6-4	253	32	11	Jackson St.
24	Brown, Steve	DB	5-11	189	25	3	Oregon
81	Bryant, Steve	WR	6-2	197	26	4	Purdue
8	Cooper, Joe	K	5-10	175	25	2	California
31	Donaldson, Jeff	SS	6-0	193	23	2	Colorado
88	Dressel, Chris	TE	6-4	238	24	3	Stanford
21	Eason, Bo	FS	6-2	200	24	2	Cal Davis
32	Edwards, Stan	RB	6-0	210	25	4	Michigan
78	Foster, Jerome	DE	6-2	263	24	3	Ohio St.
77	France, Doug	OT	6-5	278	32	10	Ohio St.
59	Grimley, John	LB	6-2	232	23	2	Kentucky
90	Hamm, Bob	DE	6-4	263	26	3	Nevada Reno
36	Hartwig, Carter	FS	6-0	203	29	7	Southern Cal
84	Holston, Mike	WR	6-3	191	27	5	Morgan St.
66	Howell, Pat	OG	6-6	265	28	7	Southern Cal
50	Hunt, Daryl	LB	6-3	243	29	7	Oklahoma
6	James, John	P	6-3	196	36	14	Florida
97	Johnston, Mike	DE	6-5	253	23	2	Illinois
57	Joiner, Tim	LB	6-4	248	24	3	LSU
38	Joyner, Willie	RB	5-10	200	23	2	Maryland
4	Kempt, Florian	K	5-9	170	29	4	Pennsylvania
27	Kennedy, Mike	SS	6-0	195	26	3	Toledo
10	Luck, Oliver	QB	6-3	196	25	4	West Virginia
28	Lyday, Allen	DB	5-10	186	25	2	Nebraska
74	Matthews, Bruce	OL	6-4	280	24	3	Southern Cal
26	Meadows, Darryl	DB	6-1	199	24	3	Toledo
89	McCloskey, Mike	TE	6-5	246	24	3	Penn St.
91	Meads, Johnny	LB	6-2	225	24	2	Nicholls St.
1	Moon, Warren	QB	6-3	208	29	2	Washington
76	Moran, Eric	OT	6-5	282	25	2	Washington
30	Moriarty, Larry	RB	6-1	240	27	3	Notre Dame
80	Mullins, Eric	WR	5-11	181	23	2	Stanford
63	Munchak, Mike	OG	6-3	286	25	4	Penn St.
12	Ransom, Brian	QB	6-3	202	25	3	Tennessee St.
53	Riley, Avon	LB	6-3	236	27	5	UCLA
85	Roaches, Carl	WR	5-8	170	32	6	Texas A&M
55	Romano, Jim	C	6-3	255	26	4	Penn St.
73	Salem, Harvey	OT	6-6	285	24	3	California
62	Schuhmacher, John	OG	6-3	277	30	6	Southern Cal
83	Smith, Tim	WR	6-2	206	28	6	Nebraska
72	Sochla, Brian	MG	6-3	254	24	3	NW Oklahoma
70	Steinkuhler, Dean	OT	6-3	273	24	2	Nebraska
67	Stensrud, Mike	MG	6-5	280	29	7	Iowa St.
98	Stedaway, Mark	DE	6-3	269	24	2	Tennessee
51	Thompson, Ted	LB	6-1	218	32	11	SMU
20	Tullis, Willie	DB	6-0	195	27	5	Troy St.
82	Walls, Herkie	WR	5-8	160	23	3	Texas
87	Williams, Jamie	TE	6-4	244	25	3	Nebraska
35	Williams, Richard	RB	6-0	210	25	2	Memphis St.
	Woolfolk, Butch	RB	6-1	207	25	4	Michigan

DRAFTIES

rd.	name	pos	ht	wt	college
1	Childress, Ray	DE	6-6	267	Texas A&M
1	Johnson, Richard	DB	6-0	195	Wisconsin
2	Byrd, Richard	DE	6-3	255	Southern Miss
3	Kelley, Mike	C	6-5	266	Notre Dame
4	Briehl, Tom	LB	6-3	247	Stanford
5	Bush, Frank	LB	6-1	218	N.C. St.
5	Johnson, Lee	K	6-1	204	BYU
6	Krakeski, Joe	LB	6-1	224	Washington
7	Akui, Mike	WR	5-9	185	Hawaii
8	Thomas, Chuck	C	6-2	270	Oklahoma
9	Tasker, Steve	KR	5-9	185	Northwestern
10	Golic, Mike	DE	6-5	265	Notre Dame
11	Drewrey, Willie	KR	5-7	158	West Virginia
12	Vonder Haar, Mark	DT	6-5	255	Minnesota



WILLIE TULLIS



BRUCE MATTHEWS



JESSE BAKER

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CANADIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

by RICK MATSUMOTO TORONTO STAR

It's not difficult to diagnose the ailment plaguing the Canadian Football League. All you have to do is take a look at the sagging attendance figures to understand that the league is suffering from a bad case of tarnished image. Not that there's been any scandal, mind you. The league is too staid for that. But what it has failed to do is keep a bright image before the public during a period of tough economic climate and increasing competition for the entertainment dollar in each of the league's nine cities.



For a long time, CFL operators believed that all they had to do was open the doors to their stadiums and enough fans would click through the turnstiles to allow them to at least break even. But that was before the expansion of the National Hockey League into cities like Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, and Vancouver, where football had been the only game in town. It was before the arrival of major-league baseball in Toronto and Montreal. And before the recession of the late 1970s and early '80s that dealt a severe blow to a blue-collar town like Hamilton and the oil-pumping cities of Calgary and Edmonton. It was also before the availability of home-computer games, video recorders, and a general trend towards participating in, rather than simply watching, sporting events.

In short, there were too many reasons for Canadians not to attend a football game, and the CFL failed to provide them with the necessary incentive. As a result, CFL attendance has fallen steadily for the past five years. Last season saw just one team—the Grey Cup

champion Winnipeg Blue Bombers—improve its attendance over the previous year. Seven of the nine clubs ended up in the red, with Edmonton and the British Columbia Lions the only moneymakers.

Much of the financial woes have been of the clubs' own making. Witness Toronto, where the Argos gave their long-suffering fans their first Grey Cup title in 31 years in 1983. The Argo management completely failed to take advantage of the surge of emotion that swept the city after the victory in Vancouver. Not a single poster, a piece of stationery, a mug, an ashtray, or even the cover of their '84 media guide and fact book carried a mention that the Argos were Grey Cup champions. They might just as well have finished last again for all the awareness there was of their championship status. As a result, attendance tumbled (by more than 34,500) rather than climbed last season under stiff competition from the baseball Blue Jays, who were hot on the heels of the Detroit Tigers for most of the American League season.

It's been much the same story this winter. While the Jays gained pages of newspaper space and hours of radio and television time with the signing of free-agent relief pitcher Bill Caudill, the acquisition of a second reliever, Gary Lavelle, and the life contract given ace starter Dave Stieb, the Argos hibernated. The biggest news coming out of the Argo offices during the winter months was the signing of quarterback Mark Casale. Mark who? If the Blue Jays prove to be the bona fide World Series contenders that many people believe them to be, then, Argos, look out. There is just a certain amount of entertainment dollars available in the wallets of Toronto fans, and most of them will be spending those hard-earned bucks on Blue Jays games.

Commissioner Doug Mitchell, who'll be entering his second year of office, is well aware of the league's failure to reach out to its audience. But he knows, too, that he can't, for example, force Argo general manager Ralph Sazio to hire a marketing manager so that the team might at least attempt to compete against the Blue Jays' high-powered sales force. Mitchell has, instead, concentrated on selling the league as a whole.

One of the first things he did upon assuming his office was to commission a market research. Then he set out to implement some of the results of the survey. For example, the research showed that many CFL fans, especially in Toronto and Hamilton, were opposed to Sunday afternoon and early evening games during the summer months. Not many were willing to cut short their weekend at the cottage to return to the sweltering city to catch a football game. Thus the league has opted for Thursday night games during July and August

in Toronto and Hamilton, along with the usual complement of Friday night games and a few Saturday and Sunday games in cities with less objection to weekend scheduling. Mitchell isn't naive enough to believe that such small measures of switching games to Thursday nights are suddenly going to bring a flood of fans back to the stadiums.

"What we hope to do in '85 is arrest the downward trend which we've seen in the last five years," he said. "It might be overzealous on our part to say that we've bottomed out or are on the way back. But we certainly feel that equaling '84 would be a move in the right direction."

Mitchell has created a number of new departments in the league offices, which recently moved to new headquarters in midtown Toronto. All this has been done in an attempt to give the CFL a more professional and more visible profile.

"I think we've come to the conclusion that our awareness nationwide is not what we hope it will be," he said. "And I hope we've rectified it to a certain extent with the creation of our new departments—our in-house marketing department and our in-house media and public relations department. We want to reach a point where people will walk into a national department store or drug store and see CFL merchandise everywhere or a CFL promotion or contest. If a businessman gets on a plane, we want him to be able to pull out a magazine and read about the CFL."

One thing Mitchell won't want those fans to read about is the number of CFL stars jumping to the National Football League. The biggest name to head south was quarterback Dieter Brock, the two-time Schenley Award winner who fled Hamilton and the CFL's largest contract, at \$300,000 (Canadian) a year, to sign a four-year, \$2.75 million (U.S.) pact with the Los Angeles Rams. Others who chose the greener American greenbacks included Brock's Hamilton teammate Felix Wright, Winnipeg's Delbert Fowler, Calgary's James West, and British Columbia's Larry Crawford and Mack Moore.

While the USFL no longer appears to pose a threat to the CFL, what that league has done is escalate NFL salaries to such a height that even the lowest-paid special teams player in the NFL earns more than most CFL veterans. That is making it increasingly difficult for CFL teams to retain their better athletes. One solution, of course, is for CFL clubs to attract more people into their parks and thus generate the dollars that will prevent the loss of all but the most highly paid superstars to the NFL. But, then, that gets back to the original question of CFL clubs improving their image. And there's doubt that some teams know about the value of a little spit and polish.

PREDICTIONS

Western Division

1. Winnipeg Blue Bombers
2. British Columbia Lions
3. Edmonton Eskimos
4. Calgary Stampeders
5. Saskatchewan Roughriders

Eastern Division

1. Toronto Argonauts
2. Montreal Concordes
3. Ottawa Rough Riders
4. Hamilton Tiger-Cats

TOM CLEMENTS
Winnipeg

1984 CFL FINAL STANDINGS

Western Division	w	l	t	pts	off	def
British Columbia	12	3	1	25	445	281
Winnipeg	11	4	1	23	523	309
Edmonton	9	7	0	18	464	443
Saskatchewan	6	9	1	13	348	479
Calgary	6	10	0	12	314	425
Eastern Division	w	l	t	pts	off	def
Toronto	9	6	1	19	461	361
Hamilton	6	9	1	13	353	439
Montreal	6	9	1	13	386	404
Ottawa	4	12	0	8	354	507

Division Semifinals

Hamilton 17 • Montreal 11
Winnipeg 55 • Edmonton 20

Division Finals

Hamilton 14 • Toronto 13
Winnipeg 31 • British Columbia 14

Grey Cup

Winnipeg 47 • Hamilton 17

western division

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS

(11-4-1) If anyone in the CFL knows about the intricacies of hanging onto the Grey Cup once he's got his hands on it, Blue Bomber head coach Cal Murphy has got to be the one. He's been a member of a championship team in seven of the past eight seasons. He was an assistant in 1977 with the last Montreal Alouette team to win the Grey Cup, and then joined the Edmonton Eskimos the next season just in time to be a part of their historic string of five straight championships. He missed out on a Grey Cup ring in '83, his first as head coach in Winnipeg, but was right back adding to his jewelry collection last year. Despite, or perhaps because of, all that experience, he knows full well that this season won't be without its problems for his defending champion Blue Bombers.

"Any time you win a championship, everything has to go right—no injuries and that sort of thing," Murphy said. "Edmonton was very fortunate when it was running that streak. There was no USFL and no defections except for the usual turnovers each year. Last year we were fortunate in not having a lot of injuries, and we ran into a hot streak at the end of the season. Whether we can repeat this season will depend on those factors and on the number of defections."

Murphy approached training camp uncertain about the status of four of his top players: linebackers Delbert Fowler (West Virginia) and Aaron Brown (Ohio State), defensive back Wylie Turner (Angelo State), and Canadian slotback Rick House. All four had played out their options and were looking to other teams as 1985 employers. The biggest concern would be losing Fowler and Brown.

"Our linebackers were the backbone of our defense," said Murphy. "I'd like to have continuity at that position. Both Fowler and Brown can run and they're big hitters. If we lose them, we might have to change our thinking on our defensive strategy."

Murphy still has a pretty good core of linebackers in Ty Jones (Southern) and Frank

Robinson (Tulane), both starters last year, and Canadian Vernon Pahl, a starter in previous years who was shunted to a backup role when the Bombers went to four import linebackers last year. Another returnee is import Del Patterson (Rutgers), who played in three games last year as an injury replacement.

The possible retirement of veteran Canadian nose tackle Doug MacIver has thrown Murphy's defensive line out of kilter, too. Stan Mikawos (North Dakota), Brent Racette, and rookie Rob Prodanovic are all possible replacements for MacIver. They're Canadians, too. But if they can't fit the bill, then Murphy will have to go to an import. The leading candidates are Joe Masaniai (Kansas) and Walt Ceathus (Indiana State).

While Turner could be the only loss from the secondary, the Bombers recruited a number of defensive backs to push the incumbents to greater heights. "And if a rookie beats out a vet, we'll be even stronger," reasons Murphy. The Grey Cup secondary was composed of David Shaw (Prairie View), Donovan Rose (Hampton Institute), Ken Hailey (San Francisco State), Turner, and Canadian rover Scott Fligel. Their competition will include Paul Hammond (Delaware), Kyle Richardson (San Francisco State), Verlon Redd (Hawaii), James Brown (Long Beach State), Lawrence Evans (Mississippi State), and Willie Burnett (Northwest Oklahoma). Canadian Doug Ploen (North Dakota), the son of former Bomber quarterback great Ken Ploen, will compete for the rover job.

Offensively, the Bombers can only get stronger. Now that the Holloway-Barnes combination has been broken up in Toronto, the duo of Tom Clements (Notre Dame) and John Hufnagel (Penn State) is the best one-two punch combining experience and ability. Clements had the best pass completion percentage in the league last year, hitting on 62.5 percent of his 446 throws for 3,845 yards and a league-leading 29 touchdowns. Todd Hons (Arizona State) and Norm Gibbs (Southern) will vie for the third quarterbacking job.

Willard Reaves (Northern Arizona) will be the running back, and that means the Bombers better buy an extra supply of footballs.

Reaves, who was a shoo-in as the Schenley Award winner as the CFL's outstanding play-

er, led the league in rushing with 304 carries for 1,733 yards and 14 touchdowns, plus another four TDs scored on pass receptions. After each touchdown he tossed the ball into the area of the stands occupied by the handicapped, and he vows to carry on that practice this season. Fullback Dan Huclack suffered a broken leg in the western semifinal last year, but Sean Kehoe proved a more than adequate replacement, especially in the Grey Cup game, where he was named the outstanding Canadian player. The battle for the starting job between that pair should prove a dust-raiser.

Jeff Boyd (Chapman College) and James Murphy (Utah State), a pair of speedsters, held down the wide receiver jobs, while House and Joe Poplawski, both homebrews, worked at slotback. If House does depart, then the Bombers could go to a third import receiver. The top candidates are Don Gatewood (Sacramento State), Keith Johnson (Eastern New Mexico), Dennis Allen (Kansas), and Lawrence Thompson (Miami).

Trevor Kennerd and Bob Cameron will handle the place-kicking and punting, respectively, once again.



WILLARD REAVES
Winnipeg



TYBONE JONES
Winnipeg



DONOVAN ROSE
Winnipeg

BRITISH COLUMBIA LIONS

(12-3-1) The Lions have had the best won-loss record in the CFL over the past two seasons, and much of that success can be directly credited to their stalwart defense, which has led the league in the fewest points surrendered in each of the past two campaigns. But that defense is beginning to crumble through defections to the National Football League or the United States Football League.

If general manager Bob Ackles, new personnel director Bob Vespaziani, and head coach Don Matthews don't come up with the right replacements, the Lions could have trouble retaining their position as kings of the Western Division let alone challenging for their first Grey Cup in 21 years. In 1983, they had an 11-5 record and lost the 1983 Grey Cup game to Toronto. Last year, despite an impressive 12-3-1 mark, they didn't even get to the title game because they were upset in the division final by the eventual Cup winners, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

The greatest decimation in the Lions' defense has come in the secondary, where the two starting cornerbacks, Kerry Parker and Jo Jo Heath, defected after the '83 season. Now the two safeties, Larry Crawford (Iowa State) and Andre Jones (Nevada Las Vegas), have played out their options and are attempting to catch on with NFL clubs. That leaves only Canadian rover Nelson Martin intact from the '83 western champions. Mind you, Darnell Clash (Wyoming) had an excellent rookie year at cornerback and Heath (Pitt) has returned after an unsuccessful year in the USFL. Heath could allow Matthews to move Mel Bryd (Cal Davis) inside to Jones's spot. That leaves only Crawford's position to be filled. But that's a large hole. He's had 17 interceptions in the past two years.

The departure of tackle Mack Moore (Texas A&M), who had nine sacks in '84, creates a weakness in the defensive line. But in Nick Hebler, Rick Klassen, and James "Quick" Parker (Wake Forest), who was named the CFL's outstanding defensive player for the second time in his career, the Lions still have a strong nucleus. Rookie Ed Ulmer (North Dakota) was the Lions' first pick in this year's draft, but he might not be ready to step in as a starter immediately.

Tyrone Crews (Kansas) anchors the unorthodox linebacking unit. At times, it sees only two linebackers as Matthews switches to his six-man secondary in passing situations.

The Lions' offensive output dropped to fourth-best in the CFL last season, and that undoubtedly is of some concern to Matthews, especially if his defense is allowing more points to be scored.

Matthews's main worry seems to be his receiving corps, despite the presence of Swervin' Mervyn Fernandez (San Jose State), whose 1,486 yards led all pass catchers last season. Finding three other receivers to complement Fernandez is the coach's consuming concern. Ned Armour (San Diego State), Jim Sandusky (San Diego State), and Henry Vereen (Nevada Las Vegas) were all expected to provide the solution last year, but Matthews didn't seem fully satisfied with any of them. He finally landed the much-traveled Ron Robinson (Utah State) from Montreal, who finished as the Lions' second-best receiver, with 1,010 yards. Armour had 50 receptions but Sandusky and Vereen were disappointments. And,



MERVYN FERNANDEZ
British Columbia

unfortunately, Matthews's attempt to go with four import receivers resulted in solid Canadian John Pankratz seeing only spot duty until the latter part of the season. It's unlikely Matthews will make that same mistake this year. Pankratz should be a regular.

John Henry White (Louisiana Tech), a seven-year veteran, and David Toloumu (Hawaii) provide solid running, but Matthews might look to Keyvan Jenkins (Nevada Las Vegas), who sat out most of last year with an injury, for more speed.

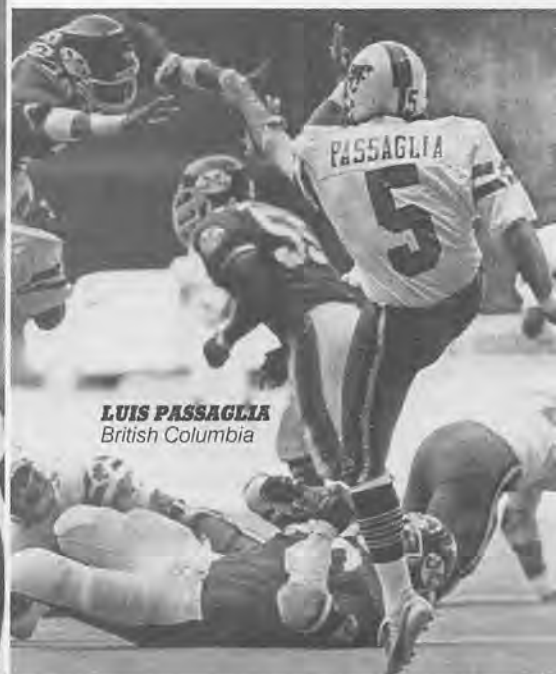
Roy Dewalt (Texas-Arlington) suffered a knee injury late last season, which quite possibly cost the Lions a return trip to the Grey Cup game. But he's recovered fully and should resume his role as the No. 1 quarterback. Second-year man Tim Cowan (Washington) showed why the Lions have been so high on him when he stepped into the breach after Dewalt went down. He could threaten for the top job if Dewalt's knee acts up. Mike Williams (Grambling) and Steve White (East Washington) will compete for the third spot. The Lions' offensive line returns unchanged.

Luis Passaglia, who just keeps getting better, will again handle the punting and place-kicking duties.

EDMONTON ESKIMOS

(11-4-1) The Hamilton Tiger-Cats certainly pulled off the upset of the 1984 CFL season when they thwarted the Toronto Argonauts' bid for a second straight Grey Cup victory. But the distinction of being the team to splatter the most eggs on the faces of the so-called experts definitely belonged to the Eskimos.

Following the defection of head coach Hugh Campbell to the NFL's Houston Oilers after the '82 season, the Eskimos' reign as CFL champions ended during a turbulent '83 campaign that saw the midseason firing of Campbell's successor, Pete Kettela, and the hiring of ex-Eskimo great Jackie Parker as his replacement. Further woes were predicted for last season as star quarterback Warren Moon joined Campbell in Houston and a major house-cleaning plan swept out many of the



LUIS PASSAGLIA
British Columbia

stalwarts that had brought an unprecedented five straight championships to Edmonton. Most people selected the Eskimos to finish last in the Western Division.

But, surprise! Parker and his Eskimos ended up in third place in the West with a 9-7 record, the fourth-best in the league. Much of the credit for that success was given to Parker, who restored the easygoing atmosphere that the Eskimos had known under Campbell but which Kettela had replaced with a tougher, more regimented approach.

Sharing the accolades with Parker was second-year quarterback Matt Dunigan. Rather than being the team's Achilles' heel, as many predicted, Dunigan, who had broken many of Terry Bradshaw's records at Louisiana Tech, emerged as the club's leader. Behind the running and passing of Dunigan, a gifted athlete with a reckless bent, the Eskimos had the second-best offensive output in the league, with 464 points. Dunigan himself ran for 732 yards on 89 carries and completed 220 of 412 passes for 3,273 yards and 21 touchdowns. Now with a full year as the team's No. 1 quarterback behind him, Dunigan should be even more poised and dangerous this season. But the Eskies seemed concerned that Dunigan's unrestrained style could abruptly leave them without a topflight quarterback. Thus they wooed and eventually signed Damon Allen (Cal Fullerton), the younger brother of the Los Angeles Raiders' Marcus Allen. They also added Brad Taylor (Arkansas), who will compete with Kevin Ingram (East Carolina) for the No. 3 job.

Dunigan's main target will once again be Brian Kelly (Washington State), who caught a league-record 18 touchdown passes last season, with all but one being thrown by the young quarterback. In only six seasons, he's become the CFL's ninth-leading receiver and by the end of this season easily should have moved up to seventh. A 1,700-yard effort would put him in sixth place. Chris Woods (Auburn), who took over from the departed Waddell Smith as the other wide receiver, caught only 38 passes but had an eye-open-

ing 22-yard-per-catch average. He will, however, have to hold off the challenges from rookies Mike Miller (Tennessee), who saw brief service with the New York Giants, and Jeff Keller (Washington State). After shipping Tom Scott, the league's all-time reception leader, to Calgary in the trade for linebacker Dan Bass, the Eskimos didn't get as much production as in the past from their inside receivers. There could be a change there with Canadians Marco Cyncar, Brian Fryer (the former Washington Redskin), and 6-foot-9 Dan Runge battling for one slotback position, while the other spot goes to an import, possibly Tag Rome (Northeast Louisiana).

Larry Cowan (Jackson State) took over the running-back job from Jim Germany, who was forced into retirement after seven seasons with a badly damaged knee, and finished third in rushing, with 759 yards. He'll return as the tailback with veteran Canadian Neil Lumsden, entering his tenth CFL season (sixth with



BRIAN KELLY
Edmonton

Edmonton), as the fullback. The offensive line returns intact.

Defensively, the changes will continue. Joe Hollimon (Arkansas State), a ten-year veteran, and Canadian Tom Towns (eleventh season) are the only remaining members of the '78 team that started the Grey Cup roll. And both may have trouble making the team this year. Another reminder of those Grey Cup years, middle linebacker Dan Keady (East Carolina), retired this winter and was immediately named an assistant coach. A two-time winner of the Schenley Award as the CFL's top defensive player, Keady will be missed. However, the Eskimos had the foresight or the good luck to acquire Bass (Michigan State) last year.



STEWART HILL
Edmonton

After going with a 3-4 defense to accommodate both Keady and Bass as inside linebackers, the Eskimos will likely revert to a 4-3 setup this season. Canadians Frank Balkovec and Mike Robinson (Utah State) will battle for one outside linebacking job, while rookie import John Dailey (Auburn) is being touted for the other side.

The defensive line could also see several new faces. Only rush backer Stewart Hill (Washington), last year's runner-up as rookie of the year, is assured of a starting job. Incumbents Tom Tuinei (Hawaii) and James Hunter (USC) will compete with Conrad Coyle (Northeastern) and Lenwood Hamilton (Southern), both of whom saw brief service, and rookie Joe Aguilar (Fullerton State).

At the end of last season the secondary saw Hollimon and Darrelle Hall (San Diego State) on the corners with Dale Thompson (Fullerton State) and Cliff Toney (Auburn) the safeties and Laurent Deslaurier the rover. The Eskimos feel that second-year Canadian David Shadrach (SFU) is capable of playing the corner, so he could be the one to bump Hollimon.

Seventeen-year veteran David Cutler had one of his poorest years in 1984, but he's expected to return as the place-kicker. Rookie Tom Dixon will handle the punting.

CALGARY STAMPEDERS

(6-10) When Earl Lunsford was running the show in Winnipeg, he had the league's best passer, two-time Schenley Award winner Dieter Brock, at the helm of his offense. Before that, there was Don Jonas, also a Schenley winner, calling the offensive signals. Yet the Blue Bombers failed to make it to the Grey Cup game and finally, after the 1982 season, Lunsford was replaced by present general manager Paul Robson.

Now, if it was difficult managing a club with the likes of Brock and Jonas at quarterback, Lunsford, the Stamps' GM, knew he'd have even more trouble keeping the customers happy unless he came up with someone with considerably more talent and experience than the motley collection of signal-callers the Stamps have sent into the huddle the past several seasons. That's why Lunsford, who was one of the league's top running backs with the Stamps during the late '50s and early '60s, took a risk, albeit a calculated one, when he sent two starters to Toronto for the rights to quarterback Joe Barnes (Texas Tech). Defensive end Walter Ballard went to the Argos right away and tackle Jeff Ingliis followed as the future consideration.

Barnes, a 10-year CFL veteran, had played out his option with the Argonauts and as of March 1 was free to negotiate with any team in Canada or the U.S. If Barnes had signed with a USFL, and NFL, or even another Canadian club, Lunsford would have had to do some fancy footwork to dodge the bullets that surely would have been fired at him by the media.

"We have to strengthen ourselves by getting older," said Lunsford. "Last year, 27 of our 38 players had less than two years' experience. Thirteen were rookies. One area where you can help a young club like ours is to obtain the leadership of a veteran quarterback."

If Lunsford had failed to sign Barnes, it would have been a long summer in southern Alberta. Second-year head coach Steve Buratto, who gave up the general manager's portfolio to Lunsford, would have had to go with

Canadian Greg Vavra, who finished last season as the club's No. 1 quarterback, and imports Bernard Quarles (Hawaii) and Danny Barrett (Cincinnati), both going into their third season. Vavra, from the University of Calgary, showed last year that he has the talent to become a starting quarterback, a position dominated by Americans since the CFL gates were opened to imports. Barnes's arrival will now provide Vavra with a valuable tutor and also restore the Stamps to contender status in the West Division. It also allowed Lunsford to trade Quarles to Ottawa.

Lunsford and Buratto also faced the chore of replacing Ballard (Texas-El Paso) as well as all-star middle linebacker James West (Texas Southern) and veteran cornerback Ray Odums (Brigham Young), the latter two having played out their options. Lunsford feels former Kansas City Chief James Walker (Kansas State) or Bob Blakemore, a four-year starter at Ole Miss, can replace Ballard on a defen-

premier ball carrier. It's unlikely Walker, who gained 732 yards as a rusher and another 595 yards as a receiver, will be pushed.

The Stamps' offensive line will also have a new look with the addition of Canadians Bob Poley and Gerry Hornett, obtained in the trade with Saskatchewan. Calgary grabbed Randy Ambrosie (Manitoba) and Tom Spoletini (Calgary) in the first two rounds of the draft. They'll be joined by Mike Palumbo (Washington State), last year's top choice, who elected to return to school.

J.T. Hay handles the place-kicking and the punting duties now that Mike McTague has been traded to Montreal.

SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS

(6-9-1) It's rare that a successful act can be reunited after many years of separation and still create the magic it once spun so easily. The Roughriders, however, are taking a gamble that the Jack Gotta-George Brancato combination can regain the touch which produced a Grey Cup for the Ottawa Rough Riders in 1973.

Gotta, who was a television color commentator last year after being fired by the Calgary Stampeders following the '83 season, is the Riders' new head coach, replacing Reuben Berry. And Brancato, who was dismissed as head coach of the Ottawa Rough Riders after a dismal 4-12 record last season, is Gotta's defensive coordinator, just as he was in Ottawa. The new look in the Riders' front office doesn't end there, either. Bill Quinter, a long-time CFL assistant coach and most recently player personnel director with the B.C. Lions, replaces John Herrera as general manager.

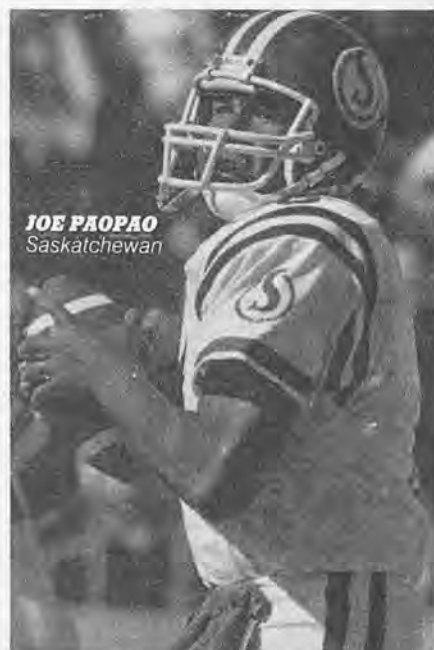
The trio is attempting to turn around the fortunes of the Green Machine, which was once the most devastating team in the league but one that has fallen on hard times in recent years. It's been eight years since the Riders last made the playoffs, and there hasn't been a Grey Cup victory parade down the frozen streets of Regina since 1966.

Gotta was far from discouraged by the talent he inherited. "Offensively, we need an instant 'six' guy," he said. Translation: the Riders require a wide receiver capable of outrunning the defense and catching touchdown passes. "And defensively, we're looking for someone who can cover the type of guy which I feel we need on offense."

The Riders finished last season with Stanley Washington (Texas Christian) and Canadian Michael Colleymore as the wide receivers, with veteran Chris DeFrance (Arizona State) and Ray Elgaard, a Saskatchewan native who attended Utah, as the slotbacks. Washington and Colleymore appear in danger of being replaced by one of the newcomers, which include Mike Elarms (Angelo State).

In Gotta's scheme, the quarterbacking picture is also expected to change this season. Joe Paopao (Long Beach State), an eight-year CFL veteran who was the Riders' starter last year after playing out his option in B.C., will go into the season as the backup to third-year man Homer Jordan (Clemson).

"I think we want to swing to a younger guy at this time, and Homer will be given the opportunity to be the guy," said Gotta. "I see it being like the Warren Moon-Tom Wilkinson situation in Edmonton a few years ago. When Moon (now the NFL Houston Oilers' quarterback) came in, he was the backup to Wilkin-



JOE PAOPAO
Saskatchewan

son, the crafty veteran. Gradually it became a 50-50 proposition, and then finally it was Moon with Wilkinson the backup.

"Homer has had the opportunity to learn over the past couple of years. He hasn't been thrown to the wolves. Last year, Saskatchewan was the only team to win a regular season game in the B.C. Dome, and he was the quarterback in that game."

Gotta may also opt for a youth movement on the offensive line, where a trio of youngsters are waiting to step into starting jobs. Mike Angerson (San Diego State), Victor Stevenson (Calgary), and Scott Redl (Saskatchewan) will be joined by Willie Thomas and Kevin Molle, obtained in a trade with Calgary, to battle Roger Aldag and Lawrie Skolrood.

Defensively, Gotta's quest for speed could create an unemployment situation for Ken Hinton (San Diego State) and Terry Irvin (Jackson State), a pair of 30-year-old cornerbacks. Irvin suffered a knee injury late last season and there's concern whether he'll be able to return at full capacity. Lepolean Ingram (Sacramento State), who came over from Calgary at the start of last season but saw little action because of a knee injury, is a candidate for one corner. At least one other change will occur in the secondary, where Ken McEachern retired from his hometown club just one season after demanding and receiving a trade from the Argonauts. His replacement will probably be Glen Suitor (Simon Fraser). Saskatchewan's second-round pick in the '84 draft.

The defensive line will also see some newcomers as Gotta strives for more quickness. Rick Mohr (Cal-Davis), who was an all-star with the Argos in 1983, elected to chase the big bucks in the USFL last spring. But after failing to catch on with the Tampa Bay Bandits and the Oakland Invaders, Mohr wound up in Regina when the Argos shipped him west in a trade for Vince Goldsmith. He didn't have the kind of year with the Riders that he enjoyed as an Argo the previous year, and if he doesn't return to form he could be looking for work again. Rusty Olsen (Washington), another former Argo, could be in trouble, too, as Gotta



JOE BARNES
Calgary

sive front four that will return Randy Trautman (Boise State), Ray Wilburn (Illinois State), and Canadian Lylly Woznesensky. Mark Nelson, a five-year veteran from East Oklahoma State, could step into West's spot, but Lunsford has also recruited Junior Tupuola (Washington State), a blitzing-type linebacker who in the Canadian game has come to be known as a rush-backer. Tupuola could go to the outside, allowing Steve Carpenter (Western Illinois) to compete for an inside linebacking job. Lunsford wasn't concerned about losing Odums, a nine-year veteran. Second-year man Mel Jenkins (Cincinnati) is a capable replacement.

Offensively, the Stamps' receiver corps is still uncertain despite years of tinkering. The team finished last season with Mike Wade (Iowa) and Mike Harper (Southern Cal) as the wide receivers and Tom Scott (Washington) and Rick Massie (Kentucky) as the slotbacks. But the aging Scott, who cost the Stampeders all-star linebacker Dan Bass, didn't respond in the manner he had with the Edmonton Eskimos and he was released at the end of the season. Lonnie Olejniczak (Iowa), a multisport all-star, could be Scott's replacement. Running back Rick Wegher (South Dakota State), could also get a look as a receiver if he can't beat out Lewis Walker (Utah) as the club's

looks for a greater pass rush. And ditto for Gary Dulin (Nevada Las Vegas), a talented individual obtained from Ottawa who can be an outstanding defensive tackle when the mood strikes him.

Rushbacker Jeff Roberts (Tulane) led the 'Riders in sacks last season. He and Canadian tackle Rick Goltz are relatively sure of maintaining their jobs. The linebacking corps was Saskatchewan's strength a year ago, with Eddie Lowe (Alabama) and Billy Jackson (Mississippi State) on the outside and Canadian Jerry Friesen in the middle.

Gotta admits he'd prefer to have one man handle both the punting and place-kicking, but as he went into camp he didn't have anyone of that stature. So Dave Ridgway will be the place-kicker and Paul Hickie the punter.

eastern division

TORONTO ARGONAUTS

(9-6-1) It was scarcely time enough for Argonaut fans to roll it around on their tongues and really savor the sweet, succulent taste of victory—a treat that had taken 31 years to reach their palates. Less than 12 months after winning their first Grey Cup in 31 years, the Argos were served a plate of sour reality when they were upset last fall in the Eastern Division final by the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. Mind you, some astute observers could see it coming. The Argos' vaunted run-and-shoot offense fired too many blanks during the season and caused the Scullers to lose games they should have won easily.

Still, the shock of being denied a return trip to the Grey Cup game was a hard pill for many of the Argos to swallow. One, in particular, was veteran quarterback Joe Barnes (Texas Tech), who aimed a verbal salvo at head coach Bob O'Billovich—claiming O'Billovich stifled individualism and wanted to make the team a platoon of robots—before returning home to Texas. Barnes, who was in fact upset at not being named the starter over Condredge Holloway (Tennessee), had played out his option during the '84 season, and that outburst only served to confirm that he wouldn't be back in '85.

The departure of Barnes, who had come off the bench to lead the Argos to the '83 Grey Cup victory, creates the biggest concern for O'Billovich as the '85 season approaches. The heir apparent to the No. 2 job is second-year pivot Ricky Turner (Washington State). Although bright, articulate, and athletic, Turner has not thrown a pass in pro combat, having spent the entire '84 season holding a clipboard on the sidelines while Holloway or Barnes ran the show on the field. The ideal scenario would be for O'Billovich to spot Turner carefully this season, relieving Holloway in situations where the outcome was all but settled one way or another. But for that to occur, Holloway has to remain healthy. That might not be easy, for opposing defenses will once again declare open season on him. As insurance, the Argos have signed Mark Casale (Montclair College), a ninth-round pick of the Chicago Bears in '84, and will take another look at Romie Mayfield (Wichita State), who showed some ability at last year's camp.

Offensively, there aren't likely to be many other changes at all. O'Billovich has promised that Canadian running back Stirling Hinds, a member of Canada's bronze-medal-winning 4

x 100 relay team at the Los Angeles Olympics, will get every opportunity to step into a starting job. However, incumbent Lester Brown (Clemson) did an excellent job after coming over from Montreal at the start of the season and he'll be tough to displace. Bob Bronk, recovering from a knee injury that forced him to miss the Grey Cup party in '83, wasn't as productive last year and an improved year in '85 is expected from the big fullback. Terry Greer (Alabama State), gained a record 2,003 yards in 1983, but plagued by injuries, he got off to a slow start last season and had to come on strongly in the second half to finish with 1,100 yards. He'll be looking for a big year as he plays out his option and looks ahead to the NFL in 1986.

Slotback Emanuel Tolbert (Southern Methodist), who was also injury-plagued last year, is going into his option year as well, and while the NFL might not be an alternative for him, he'll be playing for a substantially improved contract with the Argos. Steve Cox (Utah), who proved to be an excellent receiver after being obtained from Saskatchewan to fill in for Tolbert, should benefit from a training camp with the Argos.

Defensively, the big task—a 6-foot-4, 265-pound task—will be filling the tackle position made vacant by the departure of Earl "Bubba" Wilson (Kentucky) to the NFL. Franklin King (Kansas), who missed most of the year with a knee injury, should step into Wilson's spot alongside James Curry (Nevada Las Vegas), who had an outstanding season



**EMANUEL
TOLBERT**
Toronto



TERRY GREER
Toronto



**CONDREDGE
HOLLOWAY**
Toronto

(22 sacks) after taking over from King. Veteran end David Boone (Eastern Michigan), who joined the Argos after being cut by Edmonton, has retired. But Toronto got a ready replacement in Walter Ballard (Texas-El Paso), who is not only talented but 10 years younger, in the trade that sent Barnes's rights to Calgary.

O'Billovich would like to return to the successful linebacking unit which he had in 1983 with Darrell Nicholson (North Carolina) in the middle flanked by William Mitchell (Long Beach State) and Canadian Don Moen (UBC). But that will depend on Nicholson's knee, which he tore up early last season. If that knee has not responded to an offseason of hard work, then Mitchell, who was the team's nominee as the outstanding defensive player in the East, will remain in the center and Tim Bryant (Southern Mississippi) will get a shot at an outside job.

The major change in the secondary will be Canadian Jan Carinci (Maryland), who will make a permanent switch from slotback to rover. He was tried there last year after Paul Bennett was dealt away. Darrell Wilson (Connecticut) also played out his option, but he could be back. However, he had lost his safe-

ty job to Ralph Dixon (Arizona State) at the end of last season and could have trouble winning it back. A pair of Western Kentucky products, Carl Brazley and Lamont Meacham, will be the corners and Dennis Clay (Oregon) the other safety.

Hank Ilesic, with all his legal entanglements out of the way, will be able to concentrate on the punting and place-kicking.

MONTREAL CONCORDES

(6-9-1) General manager and head coach Joe Galat believes he has a genuine reason for optimism as the Concorde approach their fourth season as the reincarnation of the Alouettes.

"This will be the first time we'll go into the season without having to play a rookie," said Galat. "I'd be surprised to see a rookie make our starting lineup. It's tough when the first Canadian Football League game an American kid sees is the one he's playing in."

The Concorde made the playoffs for the first time in their short existence last season with eight rookies in the lineup. And although they were swamped, 17-11, by the Tiger-Cats in the semifinal game played under monsoon conditions in Hamilton's Ivor Wynne Stadium, the experience gained by the likes of young quarterbacks Turner Gill (Nebraska) and Steve Smith (Michigan), defensive end Steve Raquet (Holy Cross), and running back Dwaine Wilson (Utah State), the CFL's rookie of the year, should be invaluable.

"Our defense was our strong point last year," offered Galat. "With a little maturity, especially at quarterback, we should improve offensively. It's obvious we have to do better at quarterback."

Gill, who arrived in Montreal with considerable fanfare, got the bulk of the work at quarterback, but his lack of experience was noticeable when he faced heat from the defense. He had the second-worst pass completion average (53.1 percent) in the Eastern Division and had 16 of his 375 throws picked off. Smith played sparingly, throwing 45 passes all season as veteran Canadian Gerry Dattilio (Northern Colorado) supplied most of the relief work when Gill got into trouble. But Galat indicated that Smith, who saw occasional work as a receiver, would concentrate on quarterbacking this season and see appreciably more playing time behind Gill.

While speculating that a rookie won't crack the lineup this season, Galat might, in fact, find himself with a freshman if he elects to go with a second import running back. Wilson, who was second only to Schenley Award winner Willard Reaves of Winnipeg in the rushing department, with 1,083 yards on 226 carries, has the tailback job well in hand, but his partner could be a newcomer. Canadian Denis Ferdinand handled the fullback duties last season. One candidate is Rich Thomaselli (West Virginia Wesleyan), who spent part of last season with Green Bay after playing for the Houston Oilers when Galat was an assistant under Bum Phillips. But at 27 years of age and with three NFL seasons behind him, he's a rookie only in terms of CFL experience.

Galat has recruited several swift receivers, including Keith Nelson (Southwest Mississippi State), Javaro Sims (Florida A&M), and Mario Johnson (Houston), but they'll have their work cut out for them in trying to oust incumbents Todd Brown (Nebraska), Jeff Patterson

(Youngstown State), and Harold Bailey (Oklahoma State). Nick Arakgi, named the outstanding Canadian in the league last season, is a fixture at tight end.

The offensive line returns intact and could be further strengthened if Ian Sinclair (Miami), whom the Concorde drafted last year and who was not selected in this year's NFL draft, decides his future lies in Montreal.

The Montreal defense was the league's fourth-stingiest last season despite the facts that they spent a lot of time on the field and that Galat was inserting new parts into the unit throughout the year. The prize acquisition was Raquet, the prototype CFL player—too small for the NFL, but quick and tough—who provided the Concorde with a potent pass rusher along the lines of B.C.'s James Parker and Toronto's Vince Goldsmith. He missed several games with a knee injury but he registered 15 sacks and is the pivot of Galat's defense.

Other fine midseason additions were middle linebacker Paul Gray (Western Kentucky), outside linebacker John Pointer (Vanderbilt), who returned after an unsuccessful attempt to gain an NFL job, and defensive linemen Sandy Armstrong (Colorado) and Paul Martin (South Carolina). Martin, Armstrong, Canadian Doug Scott (Boise State), and Raquet will form the defensive front four, with homebrew Ken Ciancone working alongside Gray and Pointer as the linebackers.

Cornerback Harry Skipper (South Carolina) established himself as an all-star in his very first year in the CFL and followed that up with another outstanding performance in 1984. He heads a secondary that is a fine combination of youth and experience. Cornerback Andre Francis (New Mexico State) is heading into his third season, as is safety Aaron Hill (Lamar), while the other safety, Vince Phason (Arizona), is starting his tenth. Rover Phil Jones has five seasons behind him. Backup Preston Young has seven years' experience.

There is an indication that the Concorde will finally make a change in their kicking game, with Gerald McGrath and Roy Kurtz vying for the job of 13-year veteran Don Sweet. Mike McTague, obtained from Calgary, will likely be the punter.



NICK ARAKGI
Montreal



TURNER GILL
Montreal



HARRY SKIPPER
Montreal

OTTAWA ROUGH RIDERS

(4-12-0) Reggie Jackson isn't the only Mr. October in professional sports. The Canadian Football League had its own Mr. Autumn in George Brancato, the long-time head coach of the Ottawa Rough Riders. He made a habit of starting the run for the roses from the top of the homestretch after trailing the field for much of the early going. But just as October has turned to November for Jackson, so the calendar of late-season miracles ran out on Brancato last fall when the injury-riddled Riders finished last in the Eastern Division. Not soon afterwards, Brancato, whose Rider teams had never missed the playoffs in his 11 seasons as head coach, was bumped sideways into the role of director of player personnel, a job he quit after just two months.

To replace Brancato, the Riders went for one of his former assistants, Joe Moss. But they had to reach into the ranks of the Toronto

the run-and-shoot this season. To further school himself in the pass-oriented attack, he spent time at the training camp of the Denver Gold of the United States Football League, whose head coach, Mouse Davis, first brought the run-and-shoot to the CFL as the Argos' offensive coordinator in 1982.

The new offense should suit the beleaguered Rider quarterback J.C. Watts (Oklahoma), who has suffered a series of performance-hampering injuries since joining Ottawa and has not exactly lived up to his "savior" billing. This year, Watts arrived back in Ottawa in mid-March and spent two sessions a day with quarterback-receiver coach Kevin Gilbride. He watched yards of film on the run-and-shoot and then attempted to relate what he saw to the formations and alignments the Ottawa coaches had drawn up for this season's playbook.

"I've seen the Houston Gamblers use the run-and-shoot offense, and everything looked easy," Watts said. "But there's a lot more concealed in it than I ever thought." He'll also find that he'll need receivers who can not only run and catch, but who are smart enough to learn the intricacies of the new offense. The secret of the Argos' success was that the likes of Paul Pearson, Terry Greer, Cedric Minter (now with the New York Jets), and Emanuel Tolbert were able to carry out their duties to perfection.

The Riders improved their backup to Watts by obtaining Bernard Quarles (Hawaii) from Calgary. Also vying for duty are Nathaniel Koonce (Florida A&M), Art Williams (Southern Illinois), Ike Jackson (Oklahoma State), and Prince McJunkins (Wichita State).

The Riders' pass-catching corps will likely undergo considerable change. Keith Baker, who came over from Hamilton, went looking for work in the NFL and found it in San Francisco. Dwight Edwards moved back west in a swap with Calgary, and veteran Canadian Bruce Walker was traded to Montreal after

missing much of the last two seasons with injuries. Waymon Alridge (Nevada-Las Vegas) and Canadian Pat Stogua, two holdovers from last season, re-signed with Ottawa and should retain jobs, but slotback David Newman (Missouri) could be in trouble despite having an excellent '84 season. One reason he was released by the Argos was that he couldn't adapt to the run-and-shoot. Now, he'll be asked to try to adapt once more.

Another veteran in trouble is all-star guard Rudy Phillips (North Texas State), a two-time Schenley winner as the league's top offensive lineman. Moss has decided that the Riders can't afford to be the only team in the league with an import offensive lineman; unless Phillips can make the transition to defense, he may be job hunting in the U.S. The Riders already have a replacement for Phillips in Nick Benjamin, out of Montreal's Concordia University, who was the No. 1 pick in this year's college draft.

There'll be other changes. Running back Alvin "Skip" Walker (Texas A&M) was the East's leading rusher in '82 and '83 but was sidelined for much of last season. By the time he returned, he'd lost his job to Tim McCray (Tulane), who finished sixth in the rushing derby. He'll have an equally tough time getting it back this year.

Defensively, ends Greg Marshall (Oregon State), a perennial all-star, and Jack Williams (Bowling Green) were solid performers, as were linebackers Al Washington (Ohio State) and Rick Sowieta. But in the secondary only Ricky Barden (North Carolina) is assured of a job this season.

Ken Clark will punt and Dean Dorsey will handle the placements, unless Dorsey shows he can handle both chores.

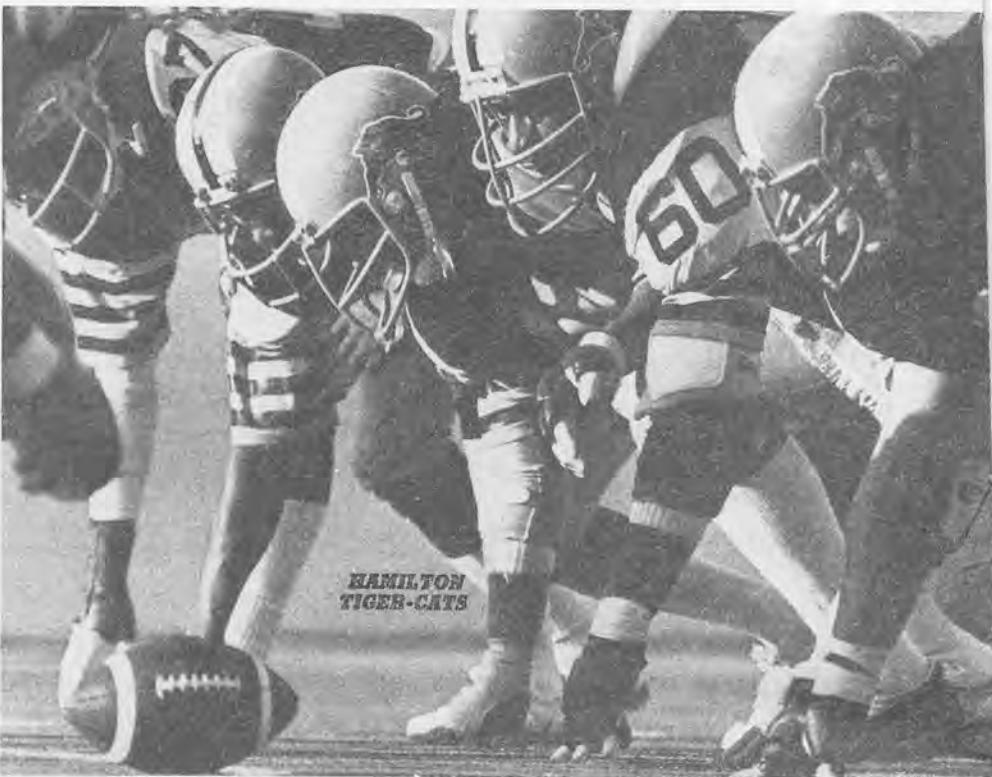
The run-and-shoot transformed the Argos from chumps to champs over one season. Rider fans are hoping the same magic takes place in the capital.

GREG MARSHALL
Ottawa



Argonauts to acquire his services. He had been the Argos' defensive line coach for the past two seasons. Moss, whose style is a quiet but no-nonsense approach appropriate for someone holding the rank of colonel in the U.S. Air Force, will offer a marked contrast to Brancato's quiet but easygoing ways. There will definitely be more discipline around the Rough Rider shop this summer.

During his tenure in Toronto, Moss became an advocate of the run-and-shoot offense that has carried the Argos to three straight first-place finishes in the Eastern Division. One of his first pronouncements after gaining the Ottawa job was that the Riders would be using



HAMILTON TIGER-CATS

(6-9-1) Perhaps the most incredible aspect of the 1984 CFL season was the appearance of the Tiger-Cats in the Grey Cup game, against Winnipeg. Of course, they were demolished by the Bombers, 47-17, but the mere fact that they were participants in the Big Game was an astonishing feat and, perhaps, said as much about the Argos' inconsistent nature as it did about the Ticats' superiority. This year, however, the Ticats will need more than a collapse by the Argos to make an encore appearance in the championship game. They'll need divine intervention.

The team is in tatters. From top to bottom, the Ticats have gaping holes in their structure. And the prospects of plugging those openings aren't good. Once one of the cornerstones of the Eastern Division, the Ticats have fallen on hard times. They averaged just over 16,000 last season and owner Harold Ballard (yes, the same Ballard who has allowed the once proud Toronto Maple Leaf hockey club to fall into ruin) doesn't seem eager to invest in a miserable cause.

The Ticats' major loss was quarterback Dieter Brock to the Los Angeles Rams after the former Schenley Award winner, despite earning \$300,000 a year in Hamilton, had played out his option. Mind you, that salary, though the highest in the CFL, paled by comparison to the four-year, \$2.75-million pact he gained from the Rams. So the Ticats, in all fairness, had no chance of competing for his services. The frightening aspect of losing Brock was that as training camp approached, there was no suitably experienced replacement. And even though head coach Al Bruno chastized the press as forecasters of doom and gloom, the fact remains that he faced the prospect of going into '85 with one of his two backups from last season, Pete Gales (Iowa) or Jeff Tedford (Fresno State), as his starter.

Brock wasn't the only Ticat eager to flee Hamilton. Two assistant coaches quit: offensive backfield coach Elijah Pitts joined Buffalo Bills of the NFL and offensive line coach Jerry Brunner went home to West Virginia. As well, player personnel director Monte Charles resigned. Furthermore, Bruno has the difficult task of trying to replace defensive backs Felix Wright (Drake) and Gerald Bess (Tuskegee Institute) and receiver Ron Johnson (Long Beach State). There was also some concern that running back Johnny Shepherd (Livingston), whose original injury was diagnosed as a hip pointer but which turned out to be more serious, would not be ready for the start of camp.

The problems don't end there. All-purpose back Rufus Crawford (Virginia State), who was the Eastern nominee as the outstanding player in the CFL last season, was convicted of an assault charge following an offseason incident which he claimed was perpetuated by a racial slur. There was concern that if he received anything more than an unconditional discharge when he came up for sentencing in the spring, he could be denied a work permit. But the charges were dropped.

While losing Johnson, the Ticat receiving corps remains reasonably strong thanks to the presence of slotback Rocky DiPietro. One of the CFL's finest homebred pass catchers, DiPietro was third in the league in receiving last season, with 71 catches for 1,063 yards and five touchdowns. He'll be joined by holdovers Steve Stapler (San Diego State), Scott

Collie (Brigham Young), out for most of last year with a knee injury, DeWayne Jett (Hawaii), and a host of newcomers which includes Dave Vandegriff (Idaho State), John Green (Tulsa), and Charles Williams (Snow Junior College), the son of former Ticat great John Williams.

If Shepherd does recover in time to regain his running-back job, then Crawford, if he is allowed to remain in Canada, will be able to return to slotback as well as handle the kick-off and punt-return duties that he does so well. Veteran Canadian Mark Bragagnolo returns as the fullback.

The Ticats' offensive line was seen to be its weak link last year, but Brock's savvy and ability to get rid of the ball quickly saved the unit from too much embarrassment. The youngsters, however, will need more protection than this group can provide.

Defensively, the Ticats got good news when end Grover Covington (Johnson C. Smith) resigned with the club after becoming a free agent. He, along with Mitchell Price (Livingston), Rod Skillman (Missouri), and Mike Walker (Washington State) provide a strong front four. And in Ben Zambiasi (Georgia), entering his eighth season, and homebrews Leo Ezerins, John Priestner, and Ed Gataveckas, the Ticats don't have a shabby linebacking crew, either.

The same can't be said of the secondary following the loss of Wright and Bess. Mark Streeter (Arizona), who finally made it with Hamilton after failing to hang on in Toronto and Winnipeg, should start at one corner. Howard Fields (Baylor) is a solid safety and Canadian Paul Bennett, who was considered finished in Toronto, rebounded strongly in a Ticat uniform at the end of the year. But where there's any bounce left in him at age 31 remains to be seen. Newcomers seeking jobs in the secondary include Keith Brown (East Carolina) and Darryl Smith (Lamar), who had previous trials with Calgary and Toronto, and Edroy Yancey (Illinois State). Watch for the Ticats to pick up a lot of rejects from other clubs after the final cutdown date.

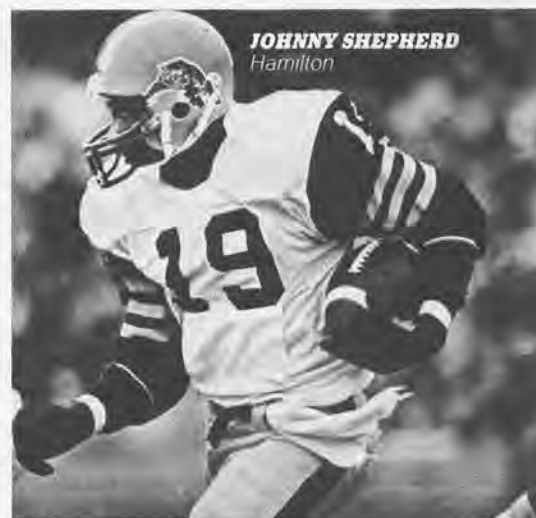
If there's one position where the Ticats are the envy of most other teams it's their kicking game, where Bernie Ruoff (Syracuse) begins his eleventh CFL season as one its very best punter/place-kickers.

new american imports

AND CANADIANS WHO
ATTENDED U.S. COLLEGES

TORONTO ARGONAUTS

Walter Ballard, DE, Texas-El Paso (Calgary-CFL); Mark Casale, QB, Montclair College; Romie Mayfield, QB, Wichita State; Walter Bender, RB, Kent State; James Cabers, WR, Missouri; Brandon Flint, DT, BYU; Lloyd Jackson, DB, Elizabeth City State; Anthony James, WR, Western Carolina; VanClive Johnson, LB, Southern Connecticut State; Jim Kalafat, LB, Montana State; Gerry Lee, DT, Wayne State; Matthew Lovelady, DE, Mississippi; Brian Marrow, CB, Wisconsin-Madison; Issac Metcalf, DB, Baylor; Lee Miller, DB, Cal Fullerton; Larry Nesmith, DB, South Carolina State; Chris Kyte, DE, Portland State; Alvin Parker, RB, Appalachian State; Cliff Reed, SB, Western Michigan; Tony



JOHNNY SHEPHERD
Hamilton

Shelton, DB, SW Oklahoma State; Joe Smith, WR, Clemson; Karry Taylor, CB, Southern Connecticut State; Richard Tharpe, DE, Louisville; Clemont Williams, DB, California; Mark Woodson, WR, Wayne State; Randall Youst, WR, Taylor

HAMILTON TIGER-CATS

Keith Brown, DB, East Carolina; John Green, WR, Tulsa; Jeff Harper, LB, Colorado State; Darryl Smith, CB, Lamar (Cleveland-NFL, Calgary-CFL); Dave Vandegriff, WR, Idaho State; Charles Williams, WR, Snow Jr. College; Edroy Yancey, DB, Illinois State; Mike Derks, OT, Cincinnati; Elmer James, RB, San Francisco State; Howard A. Jones, DT, Fresno State; John Malinosky, OT, Michigan (Toronto-CFL); Jeff Smith, DB, Missouri; Terry Steward, DB, Alcorn State; Dale Sanderson, C, Tennessee; L.B. Washington, DT, TCU

OTTAWA ROUGH RIDERS

Hewitt Dixon, RB, Moorehouse College; Erick Moon, DB, Alcorn State; Arthur Williams, QB, Southern Illinois; Michael Williams, SB, Drake; Gerald Broussard, DB, Tulane; Lucious Delegal, DB, Miami; Clarence Holzendorf, WR, Morgan State; Ike Jackson, QB, Oklahoma State; Bernard Quarles, QB, Hawaii (Calgary-CFL); Keith Richardson, WR, Washington State; Guy Ruff, LB, Syracuse; Reggie Smith, WR, North Carolina Central; Jimmy Walker, DE, Arkansas (Memphis-USFL); Tony January, RB, Sam Houston State; Nathaniel Koonce, QB, Florida A&M; Carey Reid, DB, Morehead State; Reggie Sandilands, WR, Bethune-Cookman; Barry Sorensen, DB, North Dakota State

MONTREAL CONCORDES

Dwight Bingham, DE, Mississippi; Rod Demeritte, DB, Kansas; Barry Moore, DT, Iowa State; Keith Nelson, WR, Southwest Missouri State; Fred Rogers, NG, Arkansas State; Jarvo Sims, WR, Florida A&M; Ray Strong, RB, Nevada-Las Vegas (B.C.-CFL); Germaine Young, WR, North Alabama; Mike McTague, SB/P, North Dakota State (Calgary-CFL); Kevin Biggers, DB, Nebraska; Pat Buehler, SB, Pennsylvania; Raleigh Collins, LB, West Virginia Tech; Barry Copland, CB, Cameron; Myles Darling, DB, South Carolina State; Brian Dudley, DB, Bethune-Cookman; Aaron Jackson, DE, North Carolina; Darryl James, RB, Yankton; Jimmy James, DE, Minnesota; Jim Johnson, LB, Austin Peay; Mario Johnson, WR, Northwestern; Wayne

Jones, CB, Bethune-Cookman; Joe Keys, LB, Houston; Rich Martin, WR, New Mexico; Bobby McClendon, WR, Abilene Christian; Ron Pittman, RB, Kent State; Allen Reid, RB, Minnesota; Mark Stevens, QB, Utah; Rod Thomas, RB, Western Illinois; Rich Thomaselli, RB, West Virginia Wesleyan [Houston-NFL]; Fred Wells, RB, Texas Tech; Ali Witherspoon, LB, Delaware; Lorenzo Zackery, CB, Colorado State

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS

Dennis Allen, WR, Kansas; Boris Banks, WR/QB, Miles College; Dennis Bishop, DB, Illinois; Roy Bennett, DB, Jackson State; Willie Burnett, CB, NW Oklahoma State; Walter Seathus, NT, Indiana State; Donald Gatewood, WR, Cal State-Sacramento; Darryl Green, RB, UCLA; Joe Jackson, LB, San Francisco State; Keith Johnson, RB, Eastern New Mexico; Joe Masaniai, DT, Kansas; Lawrence Thompson, WR, Miami; Wesley Woods, WR, Lincoln; Garrett Chase, DB, Grambling; Dave Daniels, DB, Tennessee State; Mike Daniels, LB, Northern Iowa; Lawrence Evans, DB, Mississippi; Joe Fleming, DB, Tennessee State; Tony Good, RB, Southern; Paul Hammond, DB, Delaware; Ron Howard, DB, Tennessee State; Pat Langdon, OL, Tennessee; Melvin Menke, DL, Purdue; Verlon Redd, DB, Hawaii; Anthony Reed, DB, North Carolina State; Kyle Richardson, DB, San Francisco State; Brad Rowland, DL, Northern Arizona; Brock Spack, LB, Purdue; Mark Stewart, LB, Washington; Mike Winegrad, LB, Illinois; Jimmy Williams, LB, Arizona State

SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS

Fred Brown, WR, Louisiana Tech; Mike Elarms, WR, Angelo State; Victor Jackson, DB, Angelo State; Gaylord Paul, CB,

Southwestern Louisiana; James Reed, LB, Cal-Berkeley (New Orleans-USFL); Harold Smith, QB, Texas Southern (Edmonton-CFL); Curtis Allen, DB, Fresno State; Johnny Baker, LB, Gardner-Webb; Darold Clardy, RB, Indiana State; Woody Clark, LB, Murray State; Joe Daily, WR, Oregon Tech; Jim Evans, LB, East Central Oklahoma; William Farley, RB, Sacramento State; Mike Gilley, SB, North Alabama; Reg Hawthorne, SB, Mississippi College; Vernon Horner, DE, Southwest Louisiana; Jeff Joslin, QB, Carson-Newman; Cedric Kelly, LB, Jackson State; Ed McQuarters Jr., OG, Minot State; Kevin Molle, OT, Fresno State [Calgary-CFL]; Ken Moore, DT, Hawaii [Calgary-CFL]; Ken Mosley, DB, Midwest Louisiana; Tony McCoy, RB, Harding; Marvin Neal, WR, Wisconsin; Richard Porter, LB, North Alabama; Louis Rash, CB, Mississippi Valley State; Eddie Ray Walker, CB, Southern Mississippi; Ken Watkins, DB, Northwestern; Ray Wheatley, OT, Oregon; Kelvin Williams, WR, Southern; Willis Yates, LB, Tennessee

CALGARY STAMPEDERS

Bob Blakemore, DT, Mississippi; Elija Norris, LB, Livingston; Lonnie Olejniczak, SB, Iowa; Junior Tuopuola, LB, Washington State; James Walker, DE, Kansas State (Kansas City-NFL); Rick Wegher, RB, South Dakota State; Joe Barnes, QB, Texas Tech (Toronto-CFL); Don Burrell, DB, Mississippi State (Birmingham-USFL); Jeff Champine, WR, Colorado State; Matt Elisara, DT, Washington State; Mardye McDole, WR, Mississippi State (Minnesota-NFL); Floyd Raglin, DB, Southern University; Tracey Adkins, DB, Washington State; Jeff Blanchard, LB, Rutgers; Rufus Cox, WR, Troy State; Donnie Harris, DB, Azusa Pacific; Hugh Jernigan, DB, Alabama;

Rob Laturnus, CB, Colorado State; Gary Nobles, WR, San Diego State; Mark Toney, DB, Tuskegee; Robert Turner, DB, James Madison; Kyle Whittingham, LB, BYU

EDMONTON ESKIMOS

Joe Aguilar, NT, Cal Fullerton; John Dailey, LB, Auburn; Jeff Keller, WR, Washington State; Mike Miller, WR, Tennessee (NY Giants-NFL); Tag Rome, SB, Northeast Louisiana; Damon Allen, QB, Cal Fullerton; Hosea Fortune, WR, Rice (San Diego-NFL); Mark Jackson, DB, Abilene Christian; Thad Jemison, WR, Ohio State (Tampa Bay-NFL); Rennie Matthews, DB, Texas A&I; Mike Robinson, LB, Utah State; Brad Taylor, QB, Arkansas; James Bell, CB, New Mexico; Anthony Edgard, RB, Hawaii; Dennis Edwards, DE, Southern Cal; Reg Fowler, LB, Wyoming; Lenwood (Skip) Hamilton, NT, Southern; Frank Murphy, NT, Fresno City College; Calvin Murray, RB, Ohio State; Ron Steiger, SB, Lamar

BRITISH COLUMBIA LIONS

Jo Jo Heath, DB, Pitt, (Pittsburgh-USFL); Kesi Afalava, DT, Hawaii; Jim Bauwens, SB, Central Missouri State; Alvin Brown, WR, Northeast Louisiana; Lonnie Burt, DT, Montana State; Richard Burtress, DT, Montana State; Ralph Caldwell, LB, Indiana; Milt Carthens, OT, Michigan; Alfred Clark, LB, Cal Fullerton; Vernon Gearing, DB, Hawaii; Mike Gray, DT, Oregon; Ben Jones, DT, Northeast Louisiana; Leroy Lutu, SB, Washington; Lance Mannix, OT, Portland State; Billy Oliver, DB, TCU; Rick Ryan, DB, Weber State; Darrell Slater, DB, Northeast Louisiana; Chris Thiessen, DE, Eastern Washington; John Ulmer, LB, North Dakota State; Steve White, QB, Eastern Washington; Fred Worthy, DT, Clemson



BEN ZAMBIASI
Hamilton



RUFUS CRAWFORD
Hamilton



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Pres., O.J. Simpson Enterprises

O.J. Simpson

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The Club that beats the streets.

NFC

STATISTICS

RECORDS

Points: 176, Paul Hornung, Green Bay (1960)

Touchdowns: 24, John Riggins, Washington (1983)

Field goals: 35, Ali Haji-Sheikh, New York (1983)

Extra points: 62, Mark Moseley, Washington (1983)

SCORING

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	SAF	POINTS
San Francisco	57	21	32	4	56	57	25	35	1	475
Washington	51	20	24	7	48	51	24	31	0	426
St. Louis	51	21	28	2	48	51	23	35	0	423
Green Bay	51	18	30	3	48	51	12	21	0	390
Rams	38	16	16	6	37	38	25	33	3	346
Tampa Bay	40	17	22	1	38	40	19	26	0	335
Chicago	37	22	14	1	35	37	22	28	1	325
Dallas	34	12	19	3	33	34	23	29	1	308
Giants	36	12	22	2	32	36	17	33	0	299
New Orleans	34	9	21	4	34	34	20	27	0	298
Detroit	32	13	19	0	31	31	20	27	0	283
Atlanta	31	16	14	1	31	31	20	27	2	281
Philadelphia	27	6	19	2	26	27	30	37	0	278
Minnesota	31	10	18	3	30	31	20	23	0	276

KICKERS

	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	PTS
Wersching, Ray, S.F.	56	56	25	35	131
Moseley, Mark, Wash.	48	51	24	31	120
O'Donoghue, Neil, St.L.	48	51	23	35	117
McFadden, Paul, Phil.	26	27	30	37	116
Lansford, Mike, Rams	37	38	25	33	112
Septien, Rafael, Dall.	33	34	23	29	102
Thomas, Bob, Chi.	35	37	22	28	101
Ariri, Obed, T.B.	38	40	19	26	95
Andersen, Morten, N.O.	34	34	20	27	94
Luckhurst, Mick, Atl.	31	31	20	27	91
Murray, Ed, Det.	31	31	20	27	91
Stenerud, Jan, Minn.	30	31	20	23	90
Haji-Sheikh, Ali, Giants	32	35	17	33	83
Del Greco, Al, G.B.	34	34	9	12	61
Garcia, Eddie, G.B.	14	15	3	9	23

NON-KICKERS

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Dickerson, Eric, Rams	14	14	0	0	84
Riggins, John, Wash.	14	14	0	0	84
Riggs, Gerald, Atl.	13	13	0	0	78
Wilder, James, T.B.	13	13	0	0	78
Green, Roy, St.L.	12	0	12	0	72
Mitchell, Stump, St.L.	11	9	2	0	66
Payton, Walter, Chi.	11	11	0	0	66
Solomon, Freddie, S.F.	11	1	10	0	66
Craig, Roger, S.F.	10	7	3	0	60
Coffman, Paul, G.B.	9	0	9	0	54
Quick, Mike, Phil.	9	0	9	0	54
Tyler, Wendell, S.F.	9	7	2	0	54
Anderson, Otis, St.L.	8	6	2	0	48
Carpenter, Rob, Giants	8	7	1	0	48
Ellard, Henry, Rams	8	0	6	2	48
Jones, James, Det.	8	3	5	0	48
Dorsett, Tony, Dall.	7	6	1	0	42
Gajan, Hokie, N.O.	7	5	2	0	42
Ivery, Eddie Lee, G.B.	7	6	1	0	42

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Johnson, Bob, Giants	7	0	7	0	42
Lofton, James, G.B.	7	0	7	0	42
Monk, Art, Wash.	7	0	7	0	42
Bailey, Stacey, Atl.	6	0	6	0	36
Brenner, Hoby, N.O.	6	0	6	0	36
Brown, Ted, Minn.	6	3	3	0	36
Clark, Dwight, S.F.	6	0	6	0	36
Clark, Jessie, G.B.	6	4	2	0	36
Ellis, Gerry, G.B.	6	4	2	0	36
Gault, Willie, Chi.	6	0	6	0	36
Mowatt, Zeke, Giants	6	0	6	0	36
Suhey, Matt, Chi.	6	4	2	0	36
Thompson, Leonard, Det.	6	0	6	0	36
Armstrong, Adger, T.B.	5	2	3	0	30
Carter, Gerald, T.B.	5	0	5	0	30
Didier, Clint, Wash.	5	0	5	0	30
Hill, Tony, Dall.	5	0	5	0	30
House, Kevin, T.B.	5	0	5	0	30
Marsh, Doug, St.L.	5	0	5	0	30
Newsome, Tim, Dall.	5	5	0	0	30
Sims, Billy, Det.	5	5	0	0	30
Tilley, Pat, St.L.	5	0	5	0	30
West, Ed, G.B.	5	1	4	0	30
Bell, Jerry, T.B.	4	0	4	0	24
Brown, Ron, Rams	4	0	4	0	24
Campbell, Earl, Hou-N.O.	4	4	0	0	24
Cooper, Earl, S.F.	4	0	4	0	24
Cosbie, Doug, Dall.	4	0	4	0	24
Danielson, Gary, Det.	4	3	1	0	24
Hill, Drew, Rams	4	0	4	0	24
Lewis, Leo, Minn.	4	0	4	0	24
Manuel, Lionel, Giants	4	0	4	0	24
Morris, Joe, Giants	4	4	0	0	24
Muhammad, Calvin, Wash.	4	0	4	0	24
Nelson, Darrin, Minn.	4	3	1	0	24
Springs, Ron, Dall.	4	1	3	0	24
Wilson, Wayne, N.O.	4	1	3	0	24
Wonsley, Otis, Wash.	4	4	0	0	24
Anderson, Alfred, Minn.	3	2	1	0	18

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Brown, Charlie, Wash.	3	0	3	0	18
Cain, Lynn, Atl.	3	3	0	0	18
Chadwick, Jeff, Det.	3	1	2	0	18
Cox, Arthur, Atl.	3	0	3	0	18
Dickey, Lynn, G.B.	3	3	0	0	18
Epps, Phillip, G.B.	3	0	3	0	18
Goodlow, Eugene, N.O.	3	0	3	0	18
Johnson, Billy, Atl.	3	0	3	0	18
Jordan, Steve, Minn.	3	1	2	0	18
Kab, Vyto, Phil.	3	0	3	0	18
Lewis, David, Det.	3	0	3	0	18
Lomax, Neil, St.L.	3	3	0	0	18
McKinnon, Dennis, Chi.	3	0	3	0	18
Ring, Bill, S.F.	3	3	0	0	18
Woodruff, Tony, Phil.	3	0	3	0	18
Young, Tyrone, N.O.	3	0	3	0	18
Crutchfield, Dwayne, Rams	2	1	1	0	12
DeBerg, Steve, T.B.	2	2	0	0	12
Dean, Vernon, Wash.	2	0	0	2	12
Donley, Doug, Dall.	2	0	2	0	12
Ferrell, Earl, St.L.	2	1	1	0	12
Francis, Russ, S.F.	2	0	2	0	12
Giles, Jimmie, T.B.	2	0	2	0	12
Gray, Earnest, Giants	2	0	2	0	12
Harris, Duriel, Clev.-Dall.	2	0	2	0	12
Hoover, Mel, Phil.	2	0	2	0	12
Irvin, LeRoy, Rams	2	0	0	2	12
Jackson, Alfred, Atl.	2	0	2	0	12
Love, Randy, St.L.	2	1	1	0	12
McLemore, Dana, S.F.	2	0	0	2	12
McMahon, Jim, Chi.	2	2	0	0	12
Montana, Joe, S.F.	2	2	0	0	12
Montgomery, Wilbert, Phil.	2	2	0	0	12
Moore, Jeff, Wash.	2	0	2	0	12
Mularkey, Mike, Minn.	2	0	2	0	12
Nehemiah, Renaldo, S.F.	2	0	2	0	12
Pisarcik, Joe, Phil.	2	2	0	0	12
Renfro, Mike, Dall.	2	0	2	0	12
Rice, Allen, Minn.	2	1	1	0	12
Rogers, George, N.O.	2	2	0	0	12
Wattelet, Frank, N.O.	2	0	0	2	12
Williams, Byron, Giants	2	0	2	0	12
Winston, Dennis, N.O.	2	0	0	2	12
Johnson, Gary, S.D.-S.F.	1	0	0	1	8
Anderson, Brad, Chi.	1	0	1	0	6
Anthony, Tyrone, N.O.	1	1	0	0	6
Bell, Todd, Chi.	1	0	0	1	6
Brown, Robert, G.B.	1	0	0	1	6
Browner, Joey, Minn.	1	0	0	1	6
Carroll, Jay, T.B.	1	0	1	0	6
Coleman, Monte, Wash.	1	0	0	1	6
Collins, Dwight, Minn.	1	0	1	0	6
Cornwell, Fred, Dall.	1	0	1	0	6
Cromwell, Nolan, Rams	1	0	0	1	6
Crouse, Ray, G.B.	1	0	1	0	6
Dierking, Scott, T.B.	1	0	1	0	6
Downs, Mike, Dall.	1	0	0	1	6
Dunsmore, Pat, Chi.	1	0	1	0	6
Frank, John, S.F.	1	0	1	0	6
Fuller, Steve, Chi.	1	1	0	0	6
Gentry, Dennis, Chi.	1	1	0	0	6
Grant, Darryl, Wash.	1	0	0	1	6
Green, Darrell, Wash.	1	0	0	1	6
Guman, Mike, Rams	1	0	0	1	6

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS		TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Haddix, Michael, Phil.	1	1	0	0	6	Howard, Thomas, St.L.	1	0	0	1	6
Hardy, Larry, N.O.	1	0	1	0	6	Hutchison, Anthony, Chi.	1	1	0	0	6
Harmon, Derrick, S.F.	1	1	0	0	6	Jackson, Jeff, Atl.	1	0	0	1	6
Harrell, Willard, St.L.	1	1	0	0	6	Jackson, Kenny, Phil.	1	0	1	0	6
Headen, Andy, Giants	1	0	0	1	6	Jacoby, Joe, Wash.	1	0	0	1	6
Hill, David, Rams	1	0	1	0	6	Jaworski, Ron, Phil.	1	1	0	0	6

PASSING

RECORDS

Completions: 347, Steve DeBerg, San Francisco (1979)

Touchdowns: 36, Y.A. Tittle, New York (1963)

Yards: 4,614, Neil Lomax, St. Louis (1984)

Longest for TD: 99 yards, Frank Filchock to Andy Farkas, Washington (1939)

99 yards, George Izo to Bobby Mitchell, Washington (1963)

99 yards, Karl Sweetan to Pat Studstill, Detroit (1966)

99 yards, Sonny Jurgensen to Gerry Allen, Washington (1968)

	ATT	COMP	PCT	YDS	AVG	TD	PCT TD	LONG	INT	PCT INT	RATING
Montana, Joe, S.F.	432	279	64.6	3630	8.40	28	6.5	180	10	2.3	102.9
Lomax, Neil, St.L.	560	345	61.6	4614	8.24	28	5.0	183	16	2.9	92.5
Bartkowski, Steve, Atl.	269	181	67.3	2158	8.02	11	4.1	61	10	3.7	89.7
Theismann, Joe, Wash.	477	283	59.3	3391	7.11	24	5.0	180	13	2.7	86.6
Dickey, Lynn, G.B.	401	237	59.1	3195	7.97	25	6.2	179	19	4.7	85.6
Danielson, Gary, Det.	410	252	61.5	3076	7.50	17	4.1	177	15	3.7	83.1
DeBerg, Steve, T.B.	509	308	60.5	3554	6.98	19	3.7	55	18	3.5	79.3
Kemp, Jeff, Rams	284	143	50.4	2021	7.12	13	4.6	163	7	2.5	78.7
Simms, Phil, Giants	533	286	53.7	4044	7.59	22	4.1	165	18	3.4	78.1
Jaworski, Ron, Phil.	427	234	54.8	2754	6.45	16	3.7	190	14	3.3	73.5
White, Danny, Dall.	233	126	54.1	1580	6.78	11	4.7	166	11	4.7	71.5
Kramer, Tommy, Minn.	236	124	52.5	1678	7.11	9	3.8	170	10	4.2	70.6
Hogeboom, Gary, Dall.	367	195	53.1	2366	6.45	7	1.9	168	14	3.8	63.7
Todd, Richard, N.O.	312	161	51.6	2178	6.98	11	3.5	74	19	6.1	60.6

NON-QUALIFIERS (10 or more attempts)

Fuller, Steve, Chi.	78	53	67.9	595	7.63	3	3.8	31	0	0.0	103.3
Cavanaugh, Matt, S.F.	61	33	54.1	449	7.36	4	6.6	151	0	0.0	99.7
McMahon, Jim, Chi.	143	85	59.4	1146	8.01	8	5.6	161	2	1.4	97.8
Archer, David, Atl.	18	11	61.1	181	10.06	1	5.6	34	1	5.6	90.3
Wilson, Dave, N.O.	93	51	54.8	647	6.96	7	7.5	154	4	4.3	83.9
Pisarcik, Joe, Phil.	176	96	54.5	1036	5.89	3	1.7	40	3	1.7	70.6
Landry, Greg, Chi.	20	11	55.0	199	9.95	1	5.0	155	3	15.0	66.5
Manning, Archie, Minn.	94	52	55.3	545	5.80	2	2.1	56	3	3.2	66.1
Hipple, Eric, Det.	38	16	42.1	246	6.47	1	2.6	40	1	2.6	62.0
Wilkowski, John, Det.	34	13	38.2	210	6.18	0	0.0	39	0	0.0	59.7
Morosi, Mike, Atl.	191	102	53.4	1207	6.32	2	1.0	148	9	4.7	56.8
Wilson, Wade, Minn.	195	102	52.3	1019	5.23	5	2.6	38	11	5.6	52.5
Campbell, Rich, G.B.	38	16	42.1	218	5.74	3	7.9	143	5	13.2	47.8
Thompson, Jack, T.B.	52	25	48.1	337	6.48	2	3.8	174	5	9.6	42.4
Stabler, Ken, N.O.	70	33	47.1	339	4.84	2	2.9	29	5	7.1	41.3
Lisch, Rusty, Chi.	85	43	50.6	413	4.86	0	0.0	23	6	7.1	35.1
Wright, Randy, G.B.	62	27	43.5	310	5.00	2	3.2	56	6	9.7	30.4
Fetragamo, Vince, Rams	66	29	43.9	317	4.80	2	3.0	68	8	12.1	29.2
Machurek, Mike, Det.	43	14	32.6	193	4.49	0	0.0	48	6	14.0	8.3

PUNTING

RECORDS

Number: 114, Bob Parsons, Chicago (1981)

Average: 51.4 yards, Sammy Baugh, Washington (1940)

Longest: 94 yards, Joe Lintzenich, Chicago (1931)

	NO	YARDS	LONG	AVG	TB	BLK	OPP RET	RET YDS	IN 20	NET AVG
Hansen, Brian, N.O.	69	3020	66	43.8	7	1	47	550	9	33.3
Coleman, Greg, Minn.	82	3473	62	42.4	2	0	49	435	16	36.6
Scribner, Bucky, G.B.	85	3596	61	42.3	12	0	46	368	18	35.2
Horan, Mike, Phil.	92	3880	69	42.2	6	0	58	486	21	35.6
Giacomarro, Ralph, Atl.	68	2855	58	42.0	6	2	42	450	12	32.6
Garcia, Frank, T.B.	68	2849	60	41.9	9	0	36	310	12	34.7
Runager, Mike, S.F.	56	2341	59	41.8	12	1	26	176	18	33.8
Black, Mike, Det.	76	3164	63	41.6	8	0	49	516	13	32.7
Finzer, David, Chi.	83	3328	87	40.1	4	2	41	249	26	35.3
Jennings, Dave, Giants	90	3598	54	40.0	10	3	50	479	22	31.4
Hayes, Jeff, Wash.	72	2834	59	39.4	5	1	38	187	11	34.9
Misko, John, Rams	74	2866	58	38.7	9	0	35	196	21	33.6
Birdsong, Carl, St.L.	67	2594	59	38.7	8	1	27	239	19	32.3
White, Danny, Dall.	82	3151	54	38.4	8	0	38	156	21	34.6

NON-QUALIFIERS

Warren, John, Dall.	21	799	48	38.0	3	0	13	47	3	33.0
Miller, Jim, Dall.	5	173	41	34.6	0	0	4	27	1	29.2
Orosz, Tom, S.F.	5	195	55	39.0	0	0	4	14	1	36.2
Haji-Sheikh, Ali, Giants	0	0	0	—	0	1	0	0	0	0.0

Leader based on gross average, minimum 40 punts

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Jeffcoat, Jim, Dall.	1	0	0	1	6
Jenkins, Ken, Det.	1	1	0	0	6
Jones, James, Dall.	1	0	1	0	6
Jones, Mike, Minn.	1	0	1	0	6
Jordan, Curtis, Wash.	1	0	0	1	6
Kemp, Jeff, Rams	1	1	0	0	6
Kramer, Tommy, Minn.	1	0	1	0	6
Kraynak, Rich, Phil.	1	0	0	1	6
Landry, Greg, Chi.	1	1	0	0	6
Lewis, Tim, G.B.	1	0	0	1	6
Logan, Dave, T.B.	1	0	0	1	6
Martin, Chris, Minn.	1	0	0	1	6
McConkey, Phil, Giants	1	0	0	1	6
McGrath, Mark, Wash.	1	0	1	0	6
Miller, Junior, N.O.	1	0	1	0	6
Monroe, Carl, S.F.	1	0	1	0	6
Moore, Blake, G.B.	1	0	1	0	6
Moorehead, Emery, Chi.	1	0	1	0	6
Nichols, Mark, Det.	1	0	1	0	6
Owens, James, T.B.	1	0	1	0	6
Rodgers, Del, G.B.	1	0	0	1	6
Rubick, Rob, Det.	1	0	1	0	6
Scott, Lindsay, N.O.	1	0	1	0	6
Seay, Virgil, Wash.	1	0	1	0	6
Shell, Todd, S.F.	1	0	0	1	6
Smith, Leonard, St.L.	1	0	0	1	6
Spagnola, John, Phil.	1	0	1	0	6
Teal, Willie, Minn.	1	0	0	1	6
Theismann, Joe, Wash.	1	1	0	0	6
Thomas, Calvin, Chi.	1	1	0	0	6
Thurman, Dennis, Dall.	1	0	0	1	6
Tice, John, N.O.	1	0	1	0	6
Walker, Rick, Wash.	1	0	1	0	6
Washington, Joe, Wash.	1	1	0	0	6
Waters, Andre, Phil.	1	0	0	1	6
White, Sammy, Minn.	1	0	1	0	6
Wilson, Mike, S.F.	1	0	1	0	6
Woolfolk, Butch, Giants	1	1	0	0	6
Bryan, Rick, Atl.	0	0	0	0	2
Case, Scott, Atl.	0	0	0	0	2
Dutton, John, Dall.	0	0	0	0	2
Sully, Ivory, Rams	0	0	0	0	2
Vann, Norwood, Rams	0	0	0	0	2

RUSHING

RECORDS

Carries: 407, James Wilder, Tampa Bay (1984)

Yards: 2,105, Eric Dickerson, Los Angeles (1984)

TDs: 24, John Riggins, Washington (1983)

	ATT	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Chicago	674	2974	4.4	172	22
Rams	541	2864	5.3	66	16
San Francisco	534	2465	4.6	47	21
Washington	588	2274	3.9	31	20
New Orleans	523	2171	4.2	162	9
St. Louis	488	2088	4.3	39	21
Green Bay	461	2019	4.4	50	18
Detroit	446	2017	4.5	81	13
Atlanta	489	1994	4.1	57	16
Minnesota	444	1844	4.2	39	10
Tampa Bay	483	1776	3.7	37	17
Dallas	469	1714	3.7	131	12
Giants	493	1660	3.4	28	12
Philadelphia	381	1338	3.5	27	6

Dickerson, Eric, Rams	379	2105	5.6	66	14
Payton, Walter, Chi.	381	1684	4.4	172	11
Wilder, James, T.B.	407	1544	3.8	37	13
Riggs, Gerald, Atl.	353	1486	4.2	57	13
Tyler, Wendell, S.F.	246	1262	5.1	40	7
Riggins, John, Wash.	327	1239	3.8	24	14
Dorsett, Tony, Dall.	302	1189	3.9	131	6
Anderson, Otis, St.L.	289	1174	4.1	24	6
Rogers, George, N.O.	239	914	3.8	28	2
Carpenter, Rob, Giants	250	795	3.2	22	7
Montgomery, Wilbert, Phil.	201	789	3.9	27	2
Anderson, Alfred, Minn.	201	773	3.8	23	2
Sims, Billy, Det.	130	687	5.3	81	5
Craig, Roger, S.F.	155	649	4.2	28	7
Gajan, Hokie, N.O.	102	615	6.0	162	5
Ellis, Gerry, G.B.	123	581	4.7	50	4

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NFC Statistics

	ATT	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Ivery, Eddie Lee, G.B.	99	552	5.6	49	6
Jones, James, Del.	137	532	3.9	34	3
Morris, Joe, Giants	133	510	3.8	28	4
Campbell, Earl, Hou.-N.O.	146	468	3.2	22	4
Brown, Ted, Minn.	98	442	4.5	19	3
Mitchell, Stump, St.L.	81	434	5.4	39	9
Suhey, Matt, Chi.	124	424	3.4	21	4
Griffin, Keith, Wash.	97	408	4.2	31	0
Nelson, Darrin, Minn.	80	406	5.1	39	3
Clark, Jessie, G.B.	87	375	4.3	143	4
Jenkins, Ken, Det.	78	358	4.6	125	1
Crutchfield, Dwayne, Rams	73	337	4.6	36	1
Theismann, Joe, Wash.	62	314	5.1	27	1
Cain, Lynn, Atl.	77	276	3.6	131	3
McMahon, Jim, Chi.	39	276	7.1	30	2
Newsome, Tim, Dall.	66	268	4.1	30	5
Oliver, Hubert, Phil.	72	263	3.7	17	0
Wilson, Wayne, N.O.	74	261	3.5	36	1
Redden, Barry, Rams	45	247	5.5	35	0
Danielson, Gary, Det.	41	218	5.3	40	3
Springs, Ron, Dall.	68	197	2.9	16	1
Harmon, Derrick, S.F.	39	192	4.9	19	1
Washington, Joe, Wash.	56	192	3.4	12	1
Ferrell, Earl, St.L.	41	190	4.6	25	1
Thomas, Calvin, Chi.	40	186	4.7	37	1
Lomax, Neil, St.L.	35	184	5.3	20	3
Crouse, Ray, G.B.	53	169	3.2	14	0
Ring, Bill, S.F.	38	162	4.3	34	3
Simms, Phil, Giants	42	162	3.9	21	0
Kemp, Jeff, Rams	34	153	4.5	23	1
Huckleby, Harlan, G.B.	35	145	4.1	23	0
Haddix, Michael, Phil.	48	130	2.7	21	1
Lisch, Rusty, Chi.	18	121	6.7	31	0
Montana, Joe, S.F.	39	118	3.0	15	2
Todd, Richard, N.O.	28	111	4.0	15	0
Anthony, Tyrone, N.O.	20	105	5.3	19	1
Moroski, Mike, Atl.	21	98	4.7	17	0
Galbreath, Tony, Giants	22	97	4.4	11	0
Rodgers, Del, G.B.	25	94	3.8	15	0
Woolfolk, Butch, Giants	40	92	2.3	17	1
Bussey, Dexter, Det.	32	91	2.8	18	0
Love, Randy, St.L.	25	90	3.6	13	1
Fuller, Steve, Chi.	15	89	5.9	26	1
Williams, Mike, Phil.	33	83	2.5	8	0
Lofton, James, G.B.	10	82	8.2	26	0
Gentry, Dennis, Chi.	21	79	3.8	28	1
Solomon, Freddie, S.F.	6	72	12.0	47	1
Jordan, Donald, Chi.	11	70	6.4	29	0
DeBerg, Steve, T.B.	28	59	2.1	14	2
Rice, Allen, Minn.	14	58	4.1	16	1
D'Addio, Dave, Det.	7	46	6.6	14	0
Jones, Mike, Minn.	4	45	11.3	36	0
Carver, Mel, T.B.	11	44	4.0	12	0
Kane, Rick, Wash.	17	43	2.5	10	0
Manning, Archie, Minn.	11	42	3.8	16	0
Hardy, Andre, Phil.	14	41	2.9	10	0
Hutchison, Anthony, Chi.	14	39	2.8	6	1
Archer, David, Atl.	6	38	6.3	12	0
Wonsley, Otis, Wash.	18	38	2.1	7	4
Thompson, Jack, T.B.	5	35	7.0	13	0
Armstrong, Adger, T.B.	10	34	3.4	9	2
Bartkowski, Steve, Atl.	15	34	2.3	8	0
Witkowski, John, Det.	7	33	4.7	10	0
Wilson, Wade, Minn.	9	30	3.3	12	0
Morton, Michael, T.B.	16	27	1.7	8	0
Nichols, Mark, Det.	3	27	9.0	13	0
Brown, Ron, Rams	2	25	12.5	16	0
Waddy, Billy, Minn.	3	24	8.0	11	0
White, Danny, Dall.	6	21	3.5	8	0
Harrell, Willard, St.L.	9	20	2.2	7	1
Hogeboom, Gary, Dall.	15	19	1.3	11	0
Pisarcik, Joe, Phil.	7	19	2.7	16	2
Jaworski, Ron, Phil.	5	18	3.6	10	1
Monk, Art, Wash.	2	18	9.0	18	0
Hodge, Floyd, Atl.	2	17	8.5	9	0
Carter, Gerald, T.B.	1	16	16.0	16	0
Stamps, Sylvester, Atl.	3	15	5.0	8	0
Dierking, Scott, T.B.	3	14	4.7	9	0
Martin, Robbie, Det.	1	14	14.0	14	0
Cooper, Earl, S.F.	3	13	4.3	7	0
Hayes, Jeff, Wash.	2	13	6.5	24	0
Jones, James, Dall.	8	13	1.6	6	0
Monroe, Carl, S.F.	3	13	4.3	7	0

	ATT	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD		NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Moore, Jeff, Wash.	3	13	4.3	5	0	Lewis, Leo, Minn.	47	830	17.7	56	4
Chadwick, Jeff, Det.	1	12	12.0	112	1	Springs, Ron, Dall.	46	454	9.9	157	3
McKinnon, Dennis, Chi.	2	12	6.0	21	0	Brown, Ted, Minn.	46	349	7.6	35	3
Coleman, Greg, Minn.	2	11	5.5	13	0	Payton, Walter, Chi.	45	368	8.2	31	0
Lewis, Leo, Minn.	2	11	5.5	6	0	Coffman, Paul, G.B.	43	562	13.1	144	9
Wright, Randy, G.B.	8	11	1.4	5	0	Muhammad, Calvin, Wash.	42	729	17.4	160	4
Kramer, Tommy, Minn.	15	9	0.6	14	0	Suhey, Matt, Chi.	42	312	7.4	23	2
Machurek, Mike, Det.	1	9	9.0	9	0	Riggs, Gerald, Atl.	42	277	6.6	21	0
Benson, Cliff, Atl.	3	8	2.7	6	0	Cooper, Earl, S.F.	41	459	11.2	26	4
Johnson, Billy, Atl.	3	8	2.7	11	0	Solomon, Freddie, S.F.	40	737	18.4	164	10
Wilson, Tim, N.O.	2	8	4.0	5	0	Marsh, Doug, St.L.	39	608	15.6	47	5
Austin, Cliff, Atl.	4	7	1.8	3	0	Jones, Mike, Minn.	38	591	15.6	170	1
Hill, Tony, Dall.	1	7	7.0	7	0	Gray, Earnest, Giants	38	529	13.9	31	2
Pridemore, Tom, Atl.	1	7	7.0	7	0	Jordan, Steve, Minn.	38	414	10.9	26	2
Dickey, Lynn, G.B.	18	6	0.3	9	3	Chadwick, Jeff, Det.	37	540	14.6	46	2
Harrington, Perry, St.L.	3	6	2.0	5	0	Galbreath, Tony, Giants	37	357	9.6	37	0
Donley, Doug, Dall.	2	5	2.5	6	0	Ellis, Gerry, G.B.	36	312	8.7	22	2
Goodlow, Eugene, N.O.	1	5	5.0	5	0	Renfro, Mike, Dall.	35	583	16.7	160	2
Mclvor, Rick, St.L.	3	5	1.7	6	0	Gajan, Hokie, N.O.	35	288	8.2	51	2
Jordan, Steve, Minn.	1	4	4.0	14	1	Nichols, Mark, Det.	34	744	21.9	177	1
Hipple, Eric, Det.	2	3	1.5	2	0	Ellard, Henry, Rams	34	622	18.3	163	6
Nelson, David, Minn.	1	3	3.0	3	0	Gault, Willie, Chi.	34	587	17.3	161	6
Campbell, Rich, G.B.	2	2	1.0	5	0	Cox, Arthur, Atl.	34	329	9.7	123	3
Cephus, Frank, Giants	3	2	0.7	2	0	Manuel, Lionel, Giants	33	619	18.8	53	4
Guman, Mike, Rams	1	2	2.0	2	0	Harris, Duell, Clev.-Dall.	33	521	15.8	43	2
Manuel, Lionel, Giants	3	2	0.7	11	0	Groth, Jeff, N.O.	33	487	14.8	31	0
Peoples, George, T.B.	1	2	2.0	2	0	Wilson, Wayne, N.O.	33	314	9.5	134	3
Walker, Rick, Wash.	1	2	2.0	2	0	Haddix, Michael, Phil.	33	231	7.0	22	0
West, Ed, G.B.	1	2	2.0	12	1	Donley, Doug, Dall.	32	473	14.8	149	2
Landry, Greg, Chi.	2	1	0.5	11	1	Oliver, Hubert, Phil.	32	142	4.4	21	0
Owens, James, T.B.	1	1	1.0	1	0	Hill, David, Rams	31	300	9.7	26	1
Baschnagel, Brian, Chi.	1	0	0.0	0	0	Sims, Billy, Det.	31	239	7.7	20	0
Ferragamo, Vince, Rams	4	0	0.0	2	0	Woodruff, Tony, Phil.	30	484	16.1	38	3
Finzer, David, Chi.	2	0	0.0	5	0	Didier, Clint, Wash.	30	350	11.7	44	5
Giacomarro, Ralph, Atl.	1	0	0.0	0	0	Young, Tyrone, N.O.	29	597	20.6	74	3
Stabler, Ken, N.O.	1	-1	-1.0	-1	0	Moorehead, Emery, Chi.	29	497	17.1	50	1
Moorehead, Emery, Chi.	1	-2	-2.0	-2	0	McKinnon, Dennis, Chi.	29	431	14.9	132	3
Duckett, Kenny, N.O.	1	-3	-3.0	-3	0	Bell, Jerry, T.B.	29	397	13.7	27	4
Ellard, Henry, Rams	3	-5	-1.7	5	0	Clark, Jessie, G.B.	29	234	8.1	20	2
Marsh, Doug, St.L.	1	-5	-5.0	-5	0	Brenner, Hoby, N.O.	28	554	19.8	57	6
Quick, Mike, Phil.	1	-5	-5.0	-5	0	Tyler, Wendell, S.F.	28	230	8.2	126	2
Runager, Max, S.F.	1	-5	-5.0	-5	0	Nelson, Darrin, Minn.	27	162	6.0	17	1
Smith, Waddell, Dall.	1	-5	-5.0	-5	0	Epps, Phillip, G.B.	26	435	16.7	56	3
Black, Mike, Det.	3	-6	-2.0	4	0	Jackson, Kenny, Phil.	26	398	15.3	183	1
Hart, Jim, Wash.	3	-6	-2.0	-2	0	Jefferson, John, G.B.	26	339	13.0	33	0
Thompson, Leonard, Det.	3	-7	-2.3	4	0	Mitchell, Stump, St.L.	26	318	12.2	144	2
Wilson, Dave, N.O.	3	-7	-2.3	-2	0	Newsome, Tim, Dall.	26	263	10.1	29	0
Green, Roy, St.L.	1	-10	-10.0	-10	0	Benson, Cliff, Atl.	26	244	9.4	30	0
Cavanaugh, Matt, S.F.	4	-11	-2.8	-1	0	Ferrell, Earl, St.L.	26	218	8.4	21	1
Collins, Dwight, Minn.	3	-14	-4.7	1	0	Carpenter, Rob, Giants	26	209	8.0	19	1
Hansen, Brian, N.O.	2	-27	-13.5	-12	0	Williams, Byron, Giants	24	471	19.6	165	2

PASS RECEIVING

RECORDS

Receptions: 106, Art Monk, Washington (1984)

Yards: 1,555, Roy Green, St. Louis (1984)

TDs: 17, Don Hutson, Green Bay (1942)

17, Elroy Hirsch, Los Angeles (1951)

(5 or more receptions)	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Monk, Art, Wash.	106	1372	12.9	72	7
Wildor, James, T.B.	85	685	8.1	50	0
Green, Roy, St.L.	78	1555	19.9	183	12
Jones, James, Det.	77	662	8.6	39	5
House, Kevin, T.B.	76	1005	13.2	55	5
Craig, Roger, S.F.	71	675	9.5	164	3
Anderson, Otis, St.L.	70	611	8.7	57	2
Bailey, Stacey, Atl.	67	1138	17.0	61	6
Spagnola, John, Phil.	65	701	10.8	34	1
Lofton, James, G.B.	62	1361	22.0	179	7
Quick, Mike, Phil.	61	1052	17.2	190	9
Carter, Gerald, T.B.	60	816	13.6	174	5
Cosbie, Doug, Dall.	60	789	13.2	36	4
Montgomery, Wilbert, Phil.	60	501	8.4	28	0
Hill, Tony, Dall.	58	864	14.9	166	5
Clark, Dwight, S.F.	52	880	16.9	180	6
Tilley, Pat, St.L.	52	758	14.6	42	5
Jackson, Alfred, Atl.	52	731	14.1	150	2
Dorsett, Tony, Dall.	51	459	9.0	168	1
Thompson, Leonard, Det.	50	773	15.5	166	6
Johnson, Bob, Giants	48	795	16.6	45	7
Mowatt, Zeke, Giants	48	698	14.5	34	6

Lewis, Leo, Minn.	47	830	17.7	56	4
Springs, Ron, Dall.	46	454	9.9	157	3
Brown, Ted, Minn.	46	349	7.6	35	3
Payton, Walter, Chi.	45	368	8.2	31	0
Coffman, Paul, G.B.	43	562	13.1	144	9
Muhammad, Calvin, Wash.	42	729	17.4	160	4
Suhey, Matt, Chi.	42	312	7.4	23	2
Riggs, Gerald, Atl.	42	277	6.6	21	0
Cooper, Earl, S.F.	41	459	11.2	26	4
Solomon, Freddie, S.F.	40	737	18.4	164	10
Marsh, Doug, St.L.	39	608	15.6	47	5
Jones, Mike, Minn.	38	591	15.6	170	1
Gray, Earnest, Giants	38	529	13.9	31	2
Jordan, Steve, Minn.	38	414	10.9	26	2
Chadwick, Jeff, Det.	37	540	14.6	46	2
Galbreath, Tony, Giants	37	357	9.6	37	0
Ellis, Gerry, G.B.	36	312	8.7	22	2
Renfro, Mike, Dall.	35	583	16.7	160	2
Gajan, Hokie, N.O.	35	288	8.2	51	2
Nichols, Mark, Det.	34	744	21.9	177	1
Ellard, Henry, Rams	34	622	18.3	163	6
Gault, Willie, Chi.	34	587	17.3	161	6
Cox, Arthur, Atl.	34	329	9.7	123	3
Manuel, Lionel, Giants	33	619	18.8	53	4
Harris, Duell, Clev.-Dall.	33	521	15.8	43	2
Groth, Jeff, N.O.	33	487	14.8	31	0
Wilson, Wayne, N.O.	33	314	9.5	134	3
Haddix, Michael, Phil.	33	231	7.0	22	0
Donley, Doug, Dall.	32	473	14.8	149	2
Oliver, Hubert, Phil.	32	142	4.4	21	0
Hill, David, Rams	31	300	9.7	26	1
Sims, Billy, Det.	31	239	7.7	20	0
Woodruff, Tony, Phil.	30	484	16.1	38	3
Didier, Clint, Wash.	30	350	11.7	44	5
Young, Tyrone, N.O.	29	597	20.6	74	3
Moorehead, Emery, Chi.	29	497	17.1	50	1
McKinnon, Dennis, Chi.	29	431	14.9	132	3
Bell, Jerry, T.B.	29	397	13.7	27	4
Clark, Jessie, G.B.	29	234	8.1	20	2
Brenner, Hoby, N.O.	28	554	19.8	57	6
Tyler, Wendell, S.F.	28	230	8.2	126	2
Nelson, Darrin, Minn.	27	162	6.0	17	1
Epps, Phillip, G.B.	26	435	16.7	56	3
Jackson, Kenny, Phil.	26	398	15.3	183	1
Jefferson, John, G.B.	26	339	13.0	33	0
Mitchell, Stump, St.L.	26	318	12.2	144	2
Newsome, Tim, Dall.	26	263	10.1	29	0
Benson, Cliff, Atl.	26	244	9.4	30	0
Ferrell, Earl, St.L.	26	218	8.4	21	1
Carpenter, Rob, Giants	26	209	8.0	19	1
Williams, Byron, Giants	24	471	19.6	165	2
Johnson, Billy, Atl.	24	371	15.5	145	3
Giles, Jimmie, T.B.	24	310	12.9	38	2
Hodge, Floyd, Atl.	24	234	9.8	26	0
Brown, Ron, Rams	23	478	20.8	54	4
Francis, Russ, S.F.	23	285	12.4	32	2
Bell, Theo, T.B.	22	350	15.9	29	0
Goodlow, Eugene, N.O.	22	281	12.8	23	3
Armstrong, Adger, T.B.	22	180	8.2	18	3
White, Sammy, Minn.	21	399	19.0	47	1
Scott, Lindsay, N.O.	21	278	13.2	37	1
Jenkins, Ken, Det.	21	246	11.7	68	0
Dickerson, Eric, Rams	21	139	6.6	19	0
Guman, Mike, Rams	19	161	8.5	29	0
Ivery, Eddie Lee, G.B.	19	141	7.4	18	1
Nehemiah, Renaldo, S.F.	18	357	19.8	159	2
Brown, Charlie, Wash.	18	200	11.1	36	3
Warren, Don, Wash.	18	192	10.7	26	0
Wilson, Mike, S.F.	17	245	14.4	44	1
LaFleur, Greg, St.L.	17	198	11.6	23	0
Moore, Jeff, Wash.	17	115	6.8	18	2
Anderson, Alfred, Minn.	17	102	6.0	128	1
Lewis, David, Det.	16	236	14.8	58	3
Senser, Joe, Minn.	15	110	7.3	26	0
Hill, Drew, Rams	14	390	27.9	68	4
Rubick, Rob, Det.	14	188	13.4	29	1
Mularkey, Mike, Minn.	14	134	9.6	26	2
Harrell, Willard, St.L.	14	106	7.6	15	0
Washington, Joe, Wash.	13	74	5.7	12	0
Morris, Joe, Giants	12	124	10.3	26	0
Anthony, Tyrone, N.O.	12	113	9.4	32	0
Cain, Lynn, Atl.	12	87	7.3	18	0

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- MLB — NFL 3/4 Sleeve Baseball Jersey 50% Poly/50% Cotton
- Adult sizes S-M-L-XL..... \$8.00 ea. Child sizes S-M-L..... \$7.00 ea.
- 1985 NFL Yearbooks —
- Cowboys..... \$3.00 □ Jets □ Packers..... \$3.50 ea.
- 1984 NFL Yearbooks □ Cowboys □ Jets □ Packers..... \$3.50 ea.
- 1983 Books □ Cowboys □ Packers □ Steelers..... \$

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NFC Statistics

	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Rogers, George, N.O.	12	76	6.3	15	0
Collins, Dwight, Minn.	11	143	13.0	143	1
Monroe, Carl, S.F.	11	139	12.6	47	1
Pittman, Danny, St.L.	10	145	14.5	50	0
McGrath, Mark, Wash.	10	118	11.8	24	1
Seay, Virgil, Wash.	9	111	12.3	19	1
Dunsmore, Pat, Chi.	9	106	11.8	25	1
Kab, Vyto, Phil.	9	102	11.3	26	3
Crouse, Ray, G.B.	9	93	10.3	25	1
Saldi, Jay, Chi.	9	90	10.0	20	0
Grant, Otis, Rams	9	64	7.1	15	0
Bussey, Dexter, Det.	9	63	7.0	19	0
Woolfolk, Butch, Giants	9	53	5.9	13	0
Thomas, Calvin, Chi.	9	39	4.3	9	0
McConkey, Phil, Giants	8	154	19.3	39	0
Miller, Junior, N.O.	8	81	10.1	22	1
Huckleby, Harlan, G.B.	8	65	8.1	13	0
Griffin, Keith, Wash.	8	43	5.4	8	0
Farmer, George, Rams	7	75	10.7	23	0
Frank, John, S.F.	7	60	8.6	21	1
Jones, James, Dall.	7	57	8.1	19	1
Williams, Mike, Phil.	7	47	6.7	15	0
Riggins, John, Wash.	7	43	6.1	11	0
Barber, Mike, Rams	7	42	6.0	11	0
Love, Randy, St.L.	7	33	4.7	16	1
Hoover, Mel, Phil.	6	143	23.8	44	2
Landrum, Mike, Atl.	6	66	11.0	30	0
Tice, John, N.O.	6	55	9.2	17	1
West, Ed, G.B.	6	54	9.0	129	4
Baschnagel, Brian, Chi.	6	53	8.8	17	0
Dixon, Dwayne, T.B.	5	69	13.8	21	0
Mack, Cedric, St.L.	5	61	12.2	22	0
Rodgers, Del, G.B.	5	56	11.2	22	0
Walker, Rick, Wash.	5	52	10.4	19	1
Carroll, Jay, T.B.	5	50	10.0	17	1

TOP 25 RECEIVERS BY YARDS

	YARDS	NO	AVG	LONG	TD
Green, Roy, St.L.	1555	78	19.9	183	12
Monk, Art, Wash.	1372	106	12.9	72	7
Lotton, James, G.B.	1361	62	22.0	179	7
Bailey, Stacey, Phil.	1138	67	17.0	61	6
Quick, Mike, Phil.	1052	61	17.2	190	9
House, Kevin, T.B.	1005	76	13.2	55	5
Clark, Dwight, S.F.	880	52	16.9	180	6
Hill, Tony, Dall.	864	58	14.9	166	5
Lewis, Leo, Minn.	830	47	17.7	56	4
Carter, Gerald, T.B.	816	60	13.6	174	5
Johnson, Bob, Giants	795	48	16.6	45	7
Cosbie, Doug, Dall.	789	60	13.2	36	4
Thompson, Leonard, Del.	773	50	15.5	166	6
Tilley, Pat, St.L.	758	52	14.6	42	5
Nichols, Mark, Det.	744	34	21.9	177	1
Solomon, Freddie, S.F.	737	40	18.4	164	10
Jackson, Alfred, Atl.	731	52	14.1	150	2
Muhammad, Calvin, Wash.	729	42	17.4	180	4
Spagnola, John, Phil.	701	65	10.8	34	1
Mowatt, Zeke, Giants	698	48	14.5	34	6
Wilder, James, T.B.	685	85	8.1	50	0
Craig, Roger, S.F.	675	71	9.5	164	3
Jones, James, Det.	662	77	8.6	39	5
Ellard, Henry, Rams	622	34	18.3	163	6
Manuel, Lionel, Giants	619	33	18.8	53	4

PUNT RETURNS

RECORDS

Number: 70, Danny Reece, Tampa Bay (1979)

Yards: 646, Eddie Brown, Washington (1976)

Longest for TD: 98 yards

Gill Lefebvre, Cincinnati (1933)

Charlie West, Minnesota (1968)

Dennis Morgan, Dallas (1974)

	NO	FCYARDS	AVG	LONG	TD	
Ellard, Henry, Rams	30	3	403	13.4	183	2
McLemore, Dana, S.F.	45	11	521	11.6	179	1
Mitchell, Stump, St.L.	38	3	333	8.8	39	0
Fields, Jitter, N.O.	27	6	236	8.7	61	0
Nelms, Mike, Wash.	49	1	428	8.7	46	0
Fisher, Jeff, Chi.	57	11	492	8.6	28	0
Martin, Robbie, Det.	25	8	210	8.4	23	0
Allen, Gary, Dall.	54	15	446	8.3	18	0
Nelson, Darrin, Minn.	23	9	180	7.8	21	0

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	NO	FC	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Bright, Leon, T.B.	23	1	173	7.5	21	0
Epps, Phillip, G.B.	29	10	199	6.9	39	0
McConkey, Phil, Giants	46	15	306	6.7	31	0
Cooper, Evan, Phil.	40	19	250	6.3	16	0
Thomas, Zack, Den.-T.B.	21	3	125	6.0	15	0

NON-QUALIFIERS (2 or more)

Flynn, Tom, G.B.	15	4	128	8.5	20	0
Johnson, Billy, Atl.	15	1	152	10.1	37	0
Johnson, Kenny, Atl.	10	1	79	7.9	14	0
Curran, Willie, Atl.	9	1	21	2.3	10	0
Harris, Durrell, Clev.-Dall.	9	0	73	8.1	13	0
Irvin, LeRoy, Rams	9	0	83	9.2	22	0
Seay, Virgil, Wash.-Atl.	8	1	10	1.3	7	0
Manuel, Lionel, Giants	8	3	62	7.8	22	0
Hall, Alvin, Det.	7	1	30	4.3	11	0
Holt, John, T.B.	6	3	17	2.8	8	0
Groth, Jeff, N.O.	6	12	32	5.3	9	0
McKinnon, Dennis, Chi.	5	0	62	12.4	18	0
Bell, Theo, T.B.	4	1	10	2.5	8	0
Pittman, Danny, St.L.	4	1	10	2.5	5	0
Hayes, Gary, G.B.	4	0	24	6.0	10	0
Lewis, Leo, Minn.	4	1	31	7.8	13	0
Mandley, Pete, Det.	2	2	0	0.0	0	0
Bess, Rufus, Minn.	2	0	9	4.5	7	0
Green, Darrell, Wash.	2	0	13	6.5	13	0

INTERCEPTIONS

RECORDS

Number: 14, Dick Lane, Los Angeles (1952)

Yards: 301, Don Doll, Detroit (1949)

Longest Return: 102 yards

Bob Smith, Detroit (1949)

Erich Barnes, New York (1961)

TDs: 3, Dick Lynch, New York (1963)

3, Herb Adderley, Green Bay (1965)

3, Monte Jackson, Los Angeles (1976)

3, Rod Perry, Los Angeles (1976)

3, Ronnie Lott, San Francisco (1981)

(2 or more)	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Flynn, Tom, G.B.	9	106	11.8	31	0
Lewis, Tim, G.B.	7	151	21.6	199	1
Downs, Mike, Dall.	7	126	18.0	127	1
Ellis, Ray, Phil.	7	119	17.0	31	0
Dean, Vernon, Wash.	7	114	16.3	136	2
Haynes, Mark, Giants	7	90	12.9	22	0
Watkins, Bobby, Det.	6	0	0.0	0	0
Irvin, LeRoy, Rams	5	166	33.2	181	2
Cotney, Mark, T.B.	5	123	24.6	29	0
Hopkins, Wes, Phil.	5	107	21.4	33	0
Fencik, Gary, Chi.	5	102	20.4	61	0
Green, Darrell, Wash.	5	91	18.2	50	1
Frazier, Leslie, Chi.	5	89	17.8	33	0
Thurman, Dennis, Dall.	5	81	16.2	43	1
Johnson, Kenny, Atl.	5	75	15.0	28	0
Washington, Lionel, St.L.	5	42	8.4	18	0
Turner, Keena, S.F.	4	51	12.8	21	0
Bell, Todd, Chi.	4	46	11.5	136	1
Smith, Wayne, St.L.	4	35	8.8	23	0
Foules, Elbert, Phil.	4	27	6.8	20	0
Lott, Ronnie, S.F.	4	26	6.5	15	0
Perrin, Benny, St.L.	4	22	5.5	22	0
Waymer, Dave, N.O.	4	9	2.3	9	0
Green, Gary, Rams	3	88	29.3	60	0
Shell, Todd, S.F.	3	81	27.0	153	1
Brantley, Scot, T.B.	3	55	18.3	33	0
Cromwell, Nolan, Rams	3	54	18.0	138	1
Hicks, Dwight, S.F.	3	42	14.0	29	0
Milot, Rich, Wash.	3	42	14.0	27	0
Castille, Jeremiah, T.B.	3	38	12.7	30	0
Lee, Mark, G.B.	3	33	11.0	14	0
Clinkscale, Dextor, Dall.	3	32	10.7	23	0
Anderson, John, G.B.	3	24	8.0	22	0
Graham, William, Det.	3	22	7.3	15	0
Walls, Everson, Dall.	3	12	4.0	12	0
Bess, Rufus, Minn.	3	7	2.3	7	0
Williams, Perry, Giants	3	7	2.3	7	0
Fellows, Ron, Dall.	3	3	1.0	3	0
Hegman, Mike, Dall.	3	3	1.0	3	0
Winston, Dennis, N.O.	2	90	45.0	147	2
Hall, Alvin, Det.	2	64	32.0	36	0
McLemore, Dana, S.F.	2	54	27.0	154	1
Wattelet, Frank, N.O.	2	52	26.0	135	1

	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Collins, Jim, Rams	2	43	21.5	40	0
Williamson, Carlton, S.F.	2	42	21.0	26	0
Smith, Leonard, St.L.	2	31	15.5	125	1
Kinard, Terry, Giants	2	29	14.5	29	0
Reasons, Gary, Giants	2	26	13.0	26	0
Butler, Bobby, Atl.	2	25	12.5	25	0
Johnson, Johnnie, Rams	2	21	10.5	21	0
Swain, John, Minn.	2	20	10.0	11	0
Jordan, Curtis, Wash.	2	18	9.0	16	0
Fahnhorst, Jim, S.F.	2	9	4.5	9	0
Richardson, Mike, Chi.	2	7	3.5	7	0
Edwards, Herman, Phil.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Griffin, Jeff, St.L.	2	0	0.0	0	0
McNorton, Bruce, Det.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Pridemore, Tom, Atl.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Wright, Eric, S.F.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Howard, Thomas, St.L.	2	-4	-2.0	1	0

KICKOFF RETURNS

RECORDS

Number: 60, Drew Hill, Los Angeles (1981)

Yards: 1,314, Dave Hampton, Green Bay (1971)

Longest: 106 yards

Al Carmichael, Green Bay (1956)

Roy Green, St. Louis (1979)

TDs: 4, Travis Williams, Green Bay (1967)

4, Cecil Turner, Chicago (1970)

	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Redden, Barry, Rams	23	530	23.0	40	0
Mitchell, Stump, St. L.	35	804	23.0	56	0
Nelson, Darrin, Minn.	35	891	22.8	47	0
Anthony, Tyrone, N.O.	22	490	22.3	64	0
Morton, Michael, T.B.	38	835	22.0	43	0
Rodgers, Del, G.B.	39	843	21.6	197	1
Anderson, Alfred, Minn.	30	639	21.3	41	0
Hill, Drew, Rams	26	543	20.9	40	0
Monroe, Carl, S.F.	27	561	20.8	44	0
Nelms, Mike, Wash.	42	860	20.5	36	0
Allen, Gary, Dall.	33	666	20.2	34	0
McSwain, Chuck, Dall.	20	403	20.2	32	0
Hayes, Joe, Phil.	22	441	20.0	44	0
Duckett, Kenny, N.O.	29	580	20.0	39	0
McConkey, Phil, Giants	28	541	19.3	33	0
Cameron, Jack, Chi.	26	485	18.7	40	0
Mandley, Pete, Det.	22	390	17.7	32	0

NON-QUALIFIERS (3 or more)

Stamps, Sylvester, Atl.	19	452	23.8	50	0
Hall, Alvin, Det.	19	385	20.3	46	0
Johnson, Kenny, Atl.	19	359	18.9	27	0
Fields, Jitter, N.O.	19	356	18.7	31	0
Jenkins, Ken, Det.	18	396	22.0	32	0
Thomas, Zack, Den.-T.B.	18	351	19.5	33	0
Cooper, Evan, Phil.	17	299	17.6	48	0
Bright, Leon, T.B.	16	303	18.9	33	0
Pittman, Danny, St.L.	14	319	22.8	43	0
Huckleby, Harlan, G.B.	14	261	18.6	54	0
Woolfolk, Butch, Giants	14	232	16.6	27	0
Harmon, Derrick, S.F.	13	357	27.5	51	0
Waters, Andre, Phil.	13	319	24.5	189	1
Harrell, Willard, St.L.	13	231	17.8	28	0
Epps, Phillip, G.B.	12	232	19.3	47	0
Curran, Willie, Atl.	11	219	19.9	42	0
Gentry, Dennis, Chi.	11	209	19.0	33	0
Martin, Robbie, Det.	10	144	14.4	23	0
Cephous, Frank, Giants	9	178	19.8	30	0
Griffin, Keith, Wash.	9	164	18.2	31	0
Tate, Rodney, Atl.	9	148	16.4	31	0
Owens, James, T.B.	8	168	21.0	36	0
Fellows, Ron, Dall.	6	94	15.7	23	0
Morris, Joe, Giants	6	69	11.5	14	0
Seay, Virgil, Wash.-Atl.	5	108	21.6	28	0
Jordan, Donald, Chi.	5	62	12.4	22	0
Wood, Richard, T.B.	5	43	8.6	16	0
Duerson, Dave, Chi.	4	95	23.8	26	0
Austin, Cliff, Atl.	4	77	19.3	23	0
Meade, Mike, Det.	4	32	8.0	15	0
McLemore, Dana, S.F.	3	80	26.7	50	0
Waddy, Billy, Minn.	3	64	21.3	31	0
Bess, Rufus, Minn.	3	47	15.7	19	0
Kane, Rick, Wash.	3	43	14.3	31	0
Everett, Major, Phil.	3	40	13.3	18	0
Rice, Allen, Minn.	3	34	11.3	13	0

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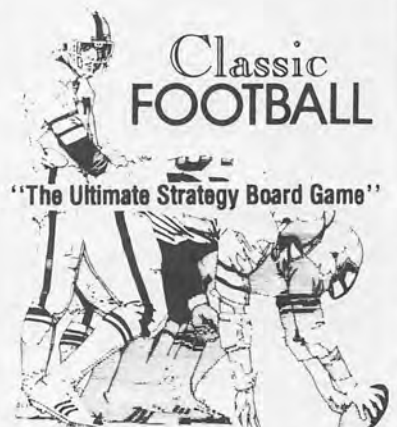
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STATISTICS

RECORDS

Points: 155, Gino Cappelletti, Boston (1964)
Touchdowns: 23, O.J. Simpson, Buffalo (1975)
Field goals: 34, Jim Turner, New York (1968)
Extra points: 66, Uwe von Schamann, Miami (1984)

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	SAF	POINTS
Miami	70	18	49	3	66	70	9	19	0	513
Seattle	51	10	32	9	50	51	20	24	1	418
San Diego	48	18	25	5	46	47	20	29	0	394
Pittsburgh	45	13	25	7	45	45	24	32	0	387
Raiders	44	19	21	4	40	44	20	27	2	368
New England	42	15	26	1	42	42	22	28	1	362
Denver	42	12	22	8	38	42	21	28	0	353
Cincinnati	39	18	17	4	37	39	22	31	1	339
Jets	40	17	20	3	39	40	17	24	1	332
Kansas City	35	12	21	2	35	35	23	33	0	314
Buffalo	31	9	18	4	31	31	11	21	0	250
Cleveland	25	10	14	1	25	25	25	35	0	250
Houston	28	13	14	1	27	28	15	19	0	240
Indianapolis	28	13	13	2	27	28	14	23	1	239

SCORING

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Tice, Mike, Sea.	3	0	3	0	18
Williams, Jamie, Hou.	3	0	3	0	18
Martin, Rod, Raiders	2	0	0	2	14
Alexander, Charles, Cin.	2	2	0	0	12
Barber, Marion, Jets	2	2	0	0	12
Barnwell, Malcolm, Raiders	2	0	2	0	12
Brown, Dave, Sea.	2	0	0	2	12
Byrd, Gill, S.D.	2	0	0	2	12
Casper, Dave, Raiders	2	0	2	0	12
Cefalo, Jimmy, Mia.	2	0	2	0	12
Davis, Bruce, Clev.	2	0	2	0	12
Dawkins, Julius, Buff.	2	0	2	0	12
Dixon, Zachary, Sea.	2	2	0	0	12
Doornink, Dan, Sea.	2	0	2	0	12
Dressel, Chris, Hou.	2	0	2	0	12
Easley, Ken, Sea.	2	0	0	2	12
Esiason, Boomer, Cin.	2	2	0	0	12
Foley, Steve, Den.	2	0	0	2	12
Harris, M.L., Cin.	2	0	2	0	12
Henry, Bernard, Ind.	2	0	2	0	12
Hughes, David, Sea.	2	1	1	0	12
Humphery, Bobby, Jets	2	0	1	1	12
Hunter, Tony, Buff.	2	0	2	0	12
Jackson, Billy, K.C.	2	1	1	0	12
Jensen, Derrick, Raiders	2	1	1	0	12
Jensen, Jim, Mia.	2	0	2	0	12
Johns, Paul, Sea.	2	0	1	1	12
Middleton, Frank, Ind.	2	1	1	0	12
Minter, Cedric, Jets	2	1	1	0	12
Moore, Alvin, Ind.	2	2	0	0	12
Parros, Rick, Den.	2	2	0	0	12
Porter, Tracy, Ind.	2	0	2	0	12
Rose, Joe, Mia.	2	0	2	0	12
Simpson, Keith, Sea.	2	0	0	2	12
Thomas, Jewel, S.D.	2	2	0	0	12
Washington, Sam, Pitt.	2	0	0	2	12
Weathers, Clarence, N.E.	2	0	2	0	12
Willhite, Gerald, Den.	2	2	0	0	12
Winslow, Kellen, S.D.	2	0	2	0	12
Woodruff, Dwayne, Pitt.	2	0	0	2	12
Young, Dave, Ind.	2	0	2	0	12
Abercrombie, Walter, Pitt.	1	1	0	0	6
Alexander, Ray, Den.	1	0	1	0	6
Arnold, Walt, Wash.-K.C.	1	0	1	0	6
Baumhower, Bob, Mia.	1	0	0	1	6
Beckman, Ed., K.C.	1	0	1	0	6
Blackledge, Todd, K.C.	1	1	0	0	6
Bostic, Keith, Hou.	1	0	0	1	6
Brookins, Mitchell, Buff.	1	0	1	0	6
Buttle, Greg, Jets	1	0	0	1	6
Carter, Joe, Mia.	1	1	0	0	6
Cunningham, Bennie, Pitt.	1	0	1	0	6
David, Stan, Buff.	1	0	0	1	6
Davis, Johnny, Clev.	1	1	0	0	6
Dennison, Glenn, Jets	1	0	1	0	6
Dufek, Joe, Buff.	1	1	0	0	6
Edwards, Stan, Hou.	1	1	0	0	6
Elway, John, Den.	1	1	0	0	6
Feacher, Ricky, Clev.	1	0	1	0	6
Fryar, Irving, N.E.	1	0	1	0	6
Gastineau, Mark, Jets	1	0	0	1	6
Green, Boyce, Clev.	1	0	1	0	6
Griffin, James, Cin.	1	0	0	1	6
Hancock, Anthony, K.C.	1	0	1	0	6
Harden, Mike, Den.	1	0	0	1	6
Harper, Bruce, Jets	1	1	0	0	6
Haynes, Mike, Raiders	1	0	0	1	6
Hector, Johnny, Jets	1	1	0	0	6
Hinkle, Bryan, Pitt.	1	0	0	1	6

KICKERS

	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	PTS
Anderson, Gary, Pitt.	45	45	24	32	117
Johnson, Norm, Sea.	50	51	20	24	110
Franklin, Tony, N.E.	42	42	22	28	108
Lowery, Nick, K.C.	35	35	23	33	104
Breech, Jim, Cin.	37	37	22	31	103
Karlisi, Rich, Den.	38	41	21	28	101
Bahr, Chris, Raiders	40	42	20	27	100
Bahr, Matt, Clev.	25	25	24	32	97
von Schamann, Uwe, Mia.	66	70	9	19	93
Benirschke, Rolf, S.D.	41	41	17	26	92
Leahy, Pat, Jets	38	39	17	24	89
Allegre, Raul, Ind.	14	14	11	18	47
Cooper, Joe, Hou.	13	13	11	13	46
Danelo, Joe, Buff.	17	17	8	16	41
Kempf, Florian, Hou.	14	14	4	6	26
Nelson, Chuck, Buff.	14	14	3	5	23
Biasucci, Dean, Ind.	13	14	3	5	22
Ricardo, Benny, S.D.	5	6	3	3	14
Cox, Steve, Clev.	0	0	1	3	3

NON-KICKERS

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Allen, Marcus, Raiders	18	13	5	0	108
Clayton, Mark, Mia.	18	0	18	0	108
Johnson, Pete, S.D.-Mia.	12	12	0	0	72
Largent, Steve, Sea.	12	0	12	0	72
Lipps, Louis, Pitt.	11	1	9	1	66
Stallworth, John, Pitt.	11	0	11	0	66
Kinnebrew, Larry, Cin.	10	9	1	0	60
Turner, Daryl, Sea.	10	0	10	0	60
Jackson, Earnest, S.D.	9	8	1	0	54
Bell, Greg, Buff.	8	7	1	0	48
Bennett, Woody, Mia.	8	7	1	0	48
Duper, Mark, Mia.	8	0	8	0	48
Paige, Tony, Jets	8	7	1	0	48
Christensen, Todd, Raiders	7	0	7	0	42
Dennard, Preston, Buff.	7	0	7	0	42
Moriarty, Larry, Hou.	7	6	1	0	42
Ramsey, Derrick, N.E.	7	0	7	0	42
Walker, Wesley, Jets	7	0	7	0	42
Watson, Steve, Den.	7	0	7	0	42
Butler, Raymond, Ind.	6	0	6	0	36
Chandler, Wes, S.D.	6	0	6	0	36
Collinsworth, Cris, Cin.	6	0	6	0	36

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Johnson, Butch, Den.	6	0	6	0	36
Joiner, Charlie, S.D.	6	0	6	0	36
McGee, Buford, S.D.	6	4	2	0	36
McNeil, Freeman, Jets	6	5	1	0	36
Moore, Nat, Mia.	6	0	6	0	36
Pollard, Frank, Pitt.	6	6	0	0	36
Pruitt, Mike, Clev.	6	6	0	0	36
Shuler, Mickey, Jets	6	0	6	0	36
Winder, Sammy, Den.	6	4	2	0	36
Collins, Anthony, N.E.	5	5	0	0	30
Eason, Tony, N.E.	5	5	0	0	30
Hardy, Bruce, Mia.	5	0	5	0	30
Jennings, Stanford, Cin.	5	2	3	0	30
Lane, Eric, Sea.	5	4	1	0	30
McMillan, Randy, Ind.	5	5	0	0	30
Morgan, Stanley, N.E.	5	0	5	0	30
Newsome, Ozzie, Clev.	5	0	5	0	30
Brooks, James, Cin.	4	2	2	0	24
Brown, Theotis, K.C.	4	4	0	0	24
Carson, Carlos, K.C.	4	0	4	0	24
Dawson, Lin, N.E.	4	0	4	0	24
Duckworth, Bobby, S.D.	4	0	4	0	24
Franklin, Byron, Buff.	4	0	4	0	24
Heard, Herman, K.C.	4	4	0	0	24
Lacy, Kenneth, K.C.	4	2	2	0	24
Marshall, Henry, K.C.	4	0	4	0	24
Paige, Stephen, K.C.	4	0	4	0	24
Smith, Tim, Hou.	4	0	4	0	24
Starring, Stephen, N.E.	4	0	4	0	24
Tatupu, Mosi, N.E.	4	4	0	0	24
Williams, Dokie, Raiders	4	0	4	0	24
Brennan, Brian, Clev.	3	0	3	0	18
Byner, Earnest, Clev.	3	2	0	1	18
Dickey, Curtis, Ind.	3	3	0	0	18
Erenberg, Rich, Pitt.	3	2	1	0	18
Hawkins, Frank, Raiders	3	3	0	0	18
Johnson, Dan, Mia.	3	0	3	0	18
Jones, Cedric, N.E.	3	0	2	1	18
Kay, Clarence, Den.	3	0	3	0	18
Krieg, Dave, Sea.	3	3	0	0	18
Lang, Gene, Den.	3	2	1	0	18
Malone, Mark, Pitt.	3	3	0	0	18
Nathan, Tony, Mia.	3	1	2	0	18
Scott, Willie, K.C.	3	0	3	0	18
Sievers, Eric, S.D.	3	0	3	0	18
Thompson, Weegie, Pitt.	3	0	3	0	18

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS		TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Holman, Rodney, Cin.	1	0	1	0	6	Kleber, Rocky, Jets	1	0	1	0	6
Holohan, Pete, S.D.	1	0	1	0	6	Kreider, Steve, Cin.	1	0	1	0	6
Holston, Michael, Hou.	1	0	1	0	6	Kubiak, Gary, Den.	1	1	0	0	6
Horton, Ray, Cin.	1	0	0	1	6	Lowe, Woodrow, S.D.	1	0	0	1	6
Jackson, Robert, Cin.	1	0	0	1	6	Luck, Oliver, Hou.	1	1	0	0	6
Jackson, Terry, Sea.	1	0	0	1	6	McCloskey, Mike, Hou.	1	0	1	0	6
James, Craig, N.E.	1	1	0	0	6	McDonald, Paul, Clev.	1	1	0	0	6
James, Lionel, S.D.	1	0	0	1	6	McNeal, Don, Mia.	1	0	0	1	6
Jones, Lam, Jets	1	0	1	0	6	Montgomery, Cleotha, Raiders	1	0	0	1	6
Jones, Rulon, Den.	1	0	0	1	6	Moon, Warren, Hou.	1	1	0	0	6
Judson, William, Mia.	1	0	0	1	6	Morris, Wayne, S.D.	1	1	0	0	6
Kalentzis, Mark, Ind.	1	0	0	1	6	Mullins, Eric, Hou.	1	0	1	0	6
Keating, Chris, Buff.	1	0	0	1	6	Munoz, Anthony, Cin.	1	0	1	0	6

PASSING

RECORDS

Completions: 362, Dan Marino, Miami (1984)

Touchdowns: 48, Dan Marino, Miami (1984)

Yards: 5,084, Dan Marino, Miami (1984)

Longest for TD: 99 yards, Jim Plunkett to Cliff Branch, Los Angeles (1983)

	ATT	COMP	PCT	YDS.	AVG	TD	PCT TD	LONG	INT	PCT INT	RATING
Marino, Dan, Mia.	564	362	64.2	5084	9.01	48	8.5	180	17	3.0	108.9
Eason, Tony, N.E.	431	259	60.1	3228	7.49	23	5.3	176	8	1.9	93.4
Fouts, Dan, S.D.	507	317	62.5	3740	7.38	19	3.7	161	17	3.4	83.4
Krieg, Dave, Sea.	480	276	57.5	3671	7.65	32	6.7	180	24	5.0	83.3
Anderson, Ken, Cin.	275	175	63.6	2107	7.66	10	3.6	180	12	4.4	81.0
Kenney, Bill, K.C.	282	151	53.5	2098	7.44	15	5.3	165	10	3.5	80.7
Moon, Warren, Hou.	450	259	57.6	3338	7.42	12	2.7	76	14	3.1	76.9
Elway, John, Den.	380	214	56.3	2598	6.84	18	4.7	73	15	3.9	76.8
Malone, Mark, Pitt.	272	147	54.0	2137	7.86	16	5.9	161	17	6.3	73.4
Ryan, Pat, Jets	285	156	54.7	1939	6.80	14	4.9	144	14	4.9	72.0
Wilson, Marc, Raiders	282	153	54.3	2151	7.63	15	5.3	92	17	6.0	71.7
McDonald, Paul, Clev.	493	271	55.0	3472	7.04	14	2.8	64	23	4.7	67.3
Ferguson, Joe, Buff.	344	191	55.5	1991	5.79	12	3.5	168	17	4.9	63.5
Blackledge, Todd, K.C.	294	147	50.0	1707	5.81	6	2.0	146	11	3.7	59.2

NON-QUALIFIERS (10 or more attempts)

	ATT	COMP	PCT	YDS.	AVG	TD	PCT TD	LONG	INT	PCT INT	RATING
Luck, Oliver, Hou.	36	22	61.1	256	7.11	2	5.6	37	1	2.8	89.6
Kubiak, Gary, Den.	75	44	58.7	440	5.87	4	5.3	41	1	1.3	87.6
Luther, Ed, S.D.	151	83	55.0	1163	7.70	5	3.3	188	3	2.0	82.7
Woodley, David, Pitt.	156	85	54.5	1273	8.16	8	5.1	180	7	4.5	79.9
Schonert, Turk, Cin.	117	78	66.7	945	8.08	4	3.4	157	7	6.0	77.8
O'Brien, Ken, Jets	203	116	57.1	1402	6.91	6	3.0	49	7	3.4	74.0
Pagel, Mike, Ind.	212	114	53.8	1426	6.73	8	3.8	154	8	3.8	71.8
Campbell, Scott, Pitt.	15	8	53.3	109	7.27	1	6.7	125	1	6.7	71.3
Plunkett, Jim, Raiders	198	108	54.5	1473	7.44	6	3.0	173	10	5.1	67.6
Esiason, Boomer, Cin.	102	51	50.0	530	5.20	3	2.9	36	3	2.9	62.9
Dufek, Joe, Buff.	150	74	49.3	829	5.53	4	2.7	164	8	5.3	52.9
Avellini, Bob, Chi-Jets	53	30	56.6	288	5.43	0	0.0	50	3	5.7	48.3
Grogan, Steve, N.E.	68	32	47.1	444	6.53	3	4.4	165	6	8.8	46.4
Schlichter, Art, Ind.	140	62	44.3	702	5.01	3	2.1	54	7	5.0	46.2
Herrmann, Mark, Ind.	56	29	51.8	352	6.29	1	1.8	174	6	10.7	37.8
Kotler, Matt, Buff.	93	33	35.5	432	4.65	2	2.2	170	5	5.4	35.8
Osiecki, Sandy, K.C.	17	7	41.2	64	3.76	0	0.0	19	1	5.9	27.6
Stankavage, Scott, Den.	18	4	22.2	58	3.22	0	0.0	16	1	5.6	17.4
Zorn, Jim, Sea.	17	7	41.2	80	4.71	0	0.0	21	2	11.8	16.4

PUNTING

RECORDS

Number: 105, Bob Scarpitto, Denver (1967)

Average: 46.2 yards, Dave Lewis, Cincinnati (1970)

Longest: 98 yards, Steve O'Neal, New York (1969)

	NO	YARDS	LONG	AVG	TB	BLK	OPP RET	RET YDS	IN 20	NET AVG
Arnold, Jim, K.C.	98	4397	63	44.9	13	0	60	461	22	37.5
Roby, Reggie, Mia.	51	2281	69	44.7	10	0	17	138	15	38.1
Stark, Rohn, Ind.	98	4383	72	44.7	7	0	62	600	21	37.2
Cox, Steve, Clev.	74	3213	69	43.4	8	2	43	489	16	33.7
Prestridge, Luke, N.E.	44	1884	89	42.8	5	0	21	228	8	35.4
McInally, Pat, Cin.	67	2832	61	42.3	8	0	38	310	19	35.3
Camarillo, Rich, N.E.	48	2020	61	42.1	7	0	24	214	12	34.7
Buford, Maury, S.D.	66	2773	60	42.0	3	0	43	399	11	35.1
Kidd, John, Buff.	88	3696	63	42.0	8	2	52	597	16	32.7
Guy, Ray, Raiders	91	3809	63	41.9	12	0	34	345	25	35.4
Colquitt, Craig, Pitt.	70	2883	62	41.2	5	0	37	351	21	34.7
Norman, Chris, Den.	96	3850	83	40.1	6	0	44	335	16	35.4
Ramsey, Chuck, Jets	74	2935	64	39.7	8	1	37	242	19	33.8
James, John, Hou.	88	3482	55	39.6	5	0	60	618	20	31.4
West, Jeff, Sea.	95	3567	60	37.5	10	0	32	205	24	33.3

Leader based on gross average, minimum 40 punts

	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS		TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
Nash, Joe, Sea.	1	0	0	1	6	Simmons, John, Cin.	1	0	0	1	6
Neal, Speedy, Buff.	1	1	0	0	6	Smith, Dennis, Den.	1	0	0	1	6
Pagel, Mike, Ind.	1	1	0	0	6	Smith, Phil, Ind.	1	0	0	1	6
Plunkett, Jim, Raiders	1	1	0	0	6	Walker, Byron, Sea.	1	0	1	0	6
Radevic, Scott, K.C.	1	0	0	1	6	Walls, Herkie, Hou.	1	0	1	0	6
Robbins, Randy, Den.	1	0	0	1	6	Williams, Lee, S.D.	1	0	0	1	6
Robinson, Bo, N.E.	1	0	1	0	6	Williams, Van, Buff.	1	0	1	0	6
Ross, Kevin, K.C.	1	0	0	1	6	Wilson, Don, Buff.	1	0	0	1	6
Sampson, Clinton, Den.	1	0	1	0	6	Wilson, Marc, Raiders	1	1	0	0	6
Sanford, Lucius, Buff.	1	0	0	1	6	Woodard, Ken, Den.	1	0	0	1	6
Schlichter, Art, Ind.	1	1	0	0	6	Wright, James, Den.	1	0	1	0	6
Schonert, Turk, Cin.	1	1	0	0	6	Wright, Louis, Den.	1	0	0	1	6
Shell, Donnie, Pitt.	1	0	0	1	6	Young, Charlie, Sea.	1	0	1	0	6
Simmons, John, Cin.	1	0	0	1	6	Bryant, Jeff, Sea.	0	0	0	0	2
Smith, Dennis, Den.	1	0	0	1	6	Humiston, Mike, Ind.	0	0	0	0	2
Smith, Phil, Ind.	1	0	0	1	6	James, Roland, N.E.	0	0	0	0	2
Walker, Byron, Sea.	1	0	1	0	6	Ryan, Pat, Jets	0	0	0	0	1
Walls, Herkie, Hou.	1	0	1	0	6						
Williams, Lee, S.D.	1	0	0	1	6						
Williams, Van, Buff.	1	0	1	0	6						
Wilson, Don, Buff.	1	0	0	1	6						
Wilson, Marc, Raiders	1	1	0	0	6						
Woodard, Ken, Den.	1	0	0	1	6						
Wright, James, Den.	1	0	1	0	6						
Wright, Louis, Den.	1	0	0	1	6						
Young, Charlie, Sea.	1	0	1	0	6						
Bryant, Jeff, Sea.	0	0	0	0	2						
Humiston, Mike, Ind.	0	0	0	0	2						
James, Roland, N.E.	0	0	0	0	2						
Ryan, Pat, Jets	0	0	0	0	1						

RUSHING

RECORDS

Carries: 373, Earl Campbell, Houston (1980)

Yards: 2,003, O.J. Simpson, Buffalo (1973)

TDs: 19, Earl Campbell, Houston (1979)

19, Chuck Muncie, San Diego (1981)

	ATT	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Jets	504	2189	4.3	64	17
Cincinnati	540	2179	4.0	33	18
Pittsburgh	574	2179	3.8	52	13
Denver	508	2076	4.1	52	12
New England	482	2032	4.2	73	15
Indianapolis	510	2025	4.0	131	13
Miami	484	1918	4.0	35	18
Raiders	516	1886	3.7	152	19
Cleveland	489	1696	3.5	54	10
Houston	433	1656	3.8	151	13
San Diego	456	1654	3.6	132	18
Seattle	495	1645	3.3	140	10
Buffalo	398	1643	4.1	185	9
Kansas City	404	1527	3.7	169	12
Jackson, Earnest, S.D.	296	1179	4.0	132	8
Allen, Marcus, Raiders	275	1168	4.2	152	13
Winder, Sammy, Den.	296	1153	3.9	24	4
Bell, Greg, Buff.	262	1100	4.2	185	7
McNeil, Freeman, Jets	229	1070	4.7	53	5
Pollard, Frank, Pitt.	213	851	4.0	52	6
James, Craig, N.E.	160	790	4.9	73	1
Moriarty, Larry, Hou.	189	785	4.2	151	6
McMillan, Randy, Ind.	163	705	4.3	131	5
Heard, Herman, K.C.	165	684	4.1	169	4
Green, Boyce, Clev.	202	673	3.3	29	0
Kinnebrew, Larry, Cin.	154	623	4.0	23	9
Abercrombie, Walter, Pitt.	145	610	4.2	31	1
Bennett, Woody, Mia.	144	606	4.2	23	7
Nathan, Tony, Mia.	118	558	4.7	22	1
Tatupu, Mosi, N.E.	133	553	4.2	120	4
Collins, Anthony, N.E.	138	550	4.0	21	5
Hector, Johnny, Jets	124	531	4.3	64	1
Dickey, Curtis, Ind.	131	523	4.0	30	3
Pruitt, Mike, Clev.	163	506	3.1	14	6
Carter, Joe, Mia.	100	495	5.0	35	1
Alexander, Charles, Cin.	132	479	3.6	22	2
Byner, Earnest, Clev.	72	426	5.9	54	2
Erenberg, Rich, Pitt.	115	405	3.5	131	2
Brooks, James, Cin.	103	396	3.8	33	2
Jennings, Stanford, Cin.	79	379	4.8	120	2
Hawkins, Frank, Raiders	108	376	3.5	17	3
Willhite, Gerald, Den.	77	371	4.8	52	2

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	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Johnson, Dan, Mia	34	426	12.5	42	3
Beil, Greg, Buff	34	277	8.1	37	1
Brooks, James, Cin	34	268	7.9	127	2
Young, Charlie, Sea	33	337	10.2	31	1
Hunter, Tony, Buff	33	331	10.0	30	2
Moore, Booker, Buff	33	172	5.2	14	0
Jones, Lam, Jets	32	470	14.7	37	1
Doomnick, Dan, Sea	31	365	11.8	32	2
Moriarty, Larry, Hou	31	206	6.6	24	1
Paige, Stephen, K.C	30	541	18.0	165	4
Dennard, Preston, Buff	30	417	13.9	168	7
Alexander, Charles, Cin	29	203	7.0	22	0
Hardy, Bruce, Mia	28	257	9.2	19	5
Scott, Willie, K.C	28	253	9.0	27	3
Branch, Cliff, Raiders	27	401	14.9	47	0
Willhite, Gerald, Den	27	298	11.0	63	0
Dickworth, Bobby, S.D	25	715	28.6	188	4
McNeil, Freeman, Jets	25	294	11.8	32	1
Heard, Herman, K.C	25	223	8.9	17	0
Riddick, Robb, Buff	23	276	12.0	38	0
James, Lionel, S.D	23	206	9.0	31	0
Williams, Dokie, Raiders	22	509	23.1	175	4
Feacher, Ricky, Clev	22	382	17.4	64	1
Holston, Michael, Hou	22	287	13.0	28	1
Bouza, Matt, Ind	22	270	12.3	22	0
James, Craig, N.E	22	159	7.2	16	0
Hughes, David, Sea	22	121	5.5	25	1
Dawkins, Julius, Buff	21	295	14.0	137	2
Adams, Willie, Clev	21	261	12.4	24	0
Holman, Rodney, Cin	21	239	11.4	27	1
Pollard, Frank, Pitt	21	186	8.9	18	0
Holt, Harry, Clev	20	261	13.1	36	0
Kreider, Steve, Cin	20	243	12.2	27	1
Hector, Johnny, Jets	20	182	9.1	26	0
Edwards, Stan, Hou	20	151	7.6	20	0
Gaffney, Derrick, Jets	19	285	15.0	29	0
Bryant, Steve, Hou	19	278	14.6	28	0
Jones, Cedric, N.E	19	244	12.8	22	2
McMillan, Randy, Ind	19	201	10.6	44	0
Kinnebrew, Larry, Cin	19	159	8.4	22	0
Brookins, Mitchell, Buff	18	318	17.7	170	1
Walls, Herkie, Hou	18	291	16.2	76	1
Cefalo, Jimmy, Mia	18	185	10.3	125	2
Thompson, Weegie, Pitt	17	291	17.1	59	3
Johns, Paul, Sea	17	207	12.2	32	1
Sawyer, John, Den	17	122	7.2	25	0
Bendross, Jesse, S.D	16	213	13.3	29	0
Talupu, Mosi, N.E	16	159	9.9	24	0
Dennison, Glenn, Jets	16	141	8.8	20	1
Kay, Clarence, Den	16	136	8.5	21	3
Abercrombie, Walter, Pitt	16	135	8.4	59	0
Collins, Anthony, N.E	16	100	6.3	19	0
Middleton, Frank, Ind	15	112	7.5	16	1
Jackson, Billy, K.C	15	101	6.7	11	1
Humphery, Bobby, Jets	14	206	14.7	144	1
Young, Dave, Ind	14	164	11.7	28	2
Dickey, Curtis, Ind	14	135	9.6	33	0
King, Kenny, Raiders	14	99	7.1	15	0
Walker, Byron, Sea	13	236	18.2	41	1
Jensen, Jim, Mia	13	139	10.7	20	2
Lacy, Kenneth, K.C	13	87	6.7	20	2
Rose, Joe, Mia	12	195	16.3	134	2
Curtis, Isaac, Cin	12	135	11.3	22	0
Green, Boyce, Clev	12	124	10.3	144	1
Sherwin, Tim, Ind	11	169	15.4	26	0
Fryar, Irving, N.E	11	164	14.9	26	1
Martin, Mike, Cin	11	164	14.9	42	0
Henry, Bernard, Ind	11	139	12.6	119	2
Byner, Earnest, Clev	11	118	10.7	26	0
Wright, James, Den	11	118	10.7	21	1
Lane, Eric, Sea	11	101	9.2	155	1
Arnold, Walt, Wash-K.C	11	95	8.6	15	1
Egloff, Ron, S.D	11	92	8.4	17	0
Hancock, Anthony, K.C	10	217	21.7	146	1
Walker, Dwight, Clev	10	122	12.2	25	0
Minter, Cedric, Jets	10	109	10.9	139	1
Barber, Marion, Jets	10	79	7.9	17	0
McCloskey, Mike, Hou	9	152	16.9	51	1
Sampson, Clinton, Den	9	123	13.7	25	1
McGee, Buford, S.D	9	76	8.4	43	2
Neal, Speedy, Buff	9	76	8.4	18	0
Morris, Randall, Sea	9	61	6.8	18	0

	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Moore, Alvin, Ind.	9	52	5.8	12	0
Wonsley, George, Ind.	9	47	5.2	17	0
Alexander, Ray, Den.	8	132	16.5	41	1
Weathers, Clarence, N.E.	8	115	14.4	29	2
Tice, Mike, Sea.	8	90	11.3	30	3
Castor, Chris, Sea.	8	89	11.1	21	0
Smith, J.T., K.C.	8	69	8.6	16	0
Barnett, Buster, Buff.	8	67	8.4	18	0
Carter, Joe, Mia.	8	53	6.6	15	0
Hawthorne, Greg, N.E.	7	127	18.1	26	0
Davis, Bruce, Clev.	7	119	17.0	143	2
Skansi, Paul, Sea.	7	85	12.1	27	0
Capers, Wayne, Pitt.	7	81	11.6	19	0
Hawkins, Frank, Raiders	7	51	7.3	15	0
Brammer, Mark, Buff.	7	49	7.0	12	0
Beckman, Ed, K.C.	7	44	6.3	9	1
Verser, David, Cin.	6	113	18.8	28	0
Mullins, Eric, Hou.	6	85	14.2	25	1
Bennett, Woody, Mia.	6	44	7.3	20	0
Paige, Tony, Jets.	6	31	5.2	10	1
Parros, Rick, Den.	6	25	4.2	9	0
Metzelaars, Pete, Sea.	5	80	16.0	25	0
Harper, Bruce, Jets	5	71	14.2	28	0
Kolodziejski, Chris, Pitt.	5	59	11.8	22	0
Williams, Van, Buff.	5	46	9.2	32	1
Pruitt, Mike, Clev.	5	29	5.8	9	0
White, Charles, Clev.	5	29	5.8	17	0
Morris, Wayne, S.D.	5	20	4.0	9	0

TOP 25 RECEIVERS BY YARDS

	YARDS	NO	AVG	LONG	TD
Stallworth, John, Pitt.	1395	80	17.4	51	11
Clayton, Mark, Mia.	1389	73	19.0	165	18
Duper, Mark, Mia.	1306	71	18.4	180	8
Watson, Steve, Den.	1170	69	17.0	73	
Gargenl, Steve, Sea.	1164	74	15.7	65	12
Smith, Tim, Hou.	1141	69	16.5	175	4
Carson, Carlos, K.C.	1078	57	18.9	57	4
Christensen, Todd, Raiders.	1007	80	12.6	38	7
Newsome, Ozzie, Clev.	1001	89	11.2	52	5
Collinsworth, Kris, Cin.	989	64	15.5	157	6
Marshall, Henry, K.C.	912	62	14.7	37	4
Franklin, Byron, Buff.	862	69	12.5	164	4
Lipps, Louis, Pitt.	860	45	19.1	180	9
Barnwell, Malcolm, Raiders	851	45	18.9	151	2
Joiner, Charlie, S.D.	793	61	13.0	41	6
Ramsey, Derrick, N.E.	792	66	12.0	34	7
Shuler, Mickey, Jets	782	68	11.5	49	6
Harris, M.L., Cin.	759	48	15.8	180	2
Allen, Marcus, Raiders	758	64	11.8	92	5
Holohan, Pete, S.D.	734	56	13.1	51	1
Duckworth, Bobby, S.D.	715	25	28.6	188	4
Turner, Daryl, Sea	715	35	20.4	180	10
Morgan, Stanley, N.E.	709	38	18.7	176	5
Chandler, Wes, S.D.	708	52	13.6	163	6
Butler, Raymond, Ind.	664	43	15.4	174	6

PUNT RETURNS

RECORDS

Number: 58, J.T. Smith, Kansas City (1979)

58. Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

Yards: 666. Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

Longest for TD: 97 yards, Greg Pruitt, Los Angeles (1983)

	NO	FC YARDS	AVG LONG	TD	
Martin, Mike, Cin.	24	5	376	15.7	55
Lipps, Louis, Pitt.	53	2	656	12.4	176
Willhite, Gerald, Den.	20	9	200	10.0	35
Fryar, Irving, N.E.	36	10	347	9.6	55
Wilson, Don, Buff.	33	8	297	9.0	165
Pruitt, Greg, Raiders	53	16	473	8.9	38
Springs, Kirk, Jets	28	10	247	8.8	33
Smith, J.T., K.C.	39	14	332	8.5	27
Walker, Fulton, Mia.	21	14	169	8.0	33
Brennan, Brian, Clev.	25	10	199	8.0	19
James, Lionel, S.D.	30	9	208	6.9	158
Anderson, Larry, Ind.	27	7	182	6.7	19
Roaches, Carl, Hou.	26	8	152	5.8	18

NON-QUALIFIERS (2 or more)

Skansi, Paul, Sea	16	2	145	9.1	16
Easley, Ken, Sea	16	5	194	12.1	42

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AFC statistics

	NO	FC	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Montgomery, Cleotha, Raiders	14	1	194	13.9	169	1
Simmons, John, Cin.	12	6	98	8.2	30	0
Johns, Paul, Sea.	11	4	140	12.7	147	1
Starring, Stephen, N.E.	10	1	73	7.3	16	0
Clayton, Mark, Mia.	8	2	79	9.9	22	0
Glasgow, Nesby, Ind.	7	2	79	11.3	35	0
Woods, Rick, Pitt.	6	0	40	6.7	14	0
Walker, Dwight, Clev.	6	3	50	8.3	13	0
Bird, Steve, St.L.-S.D.	6	0	60	10.0	17	0
Hellin, Vince, Mia.	6	1	76	12.7	37	0
Kozlowski, Mike, Mia.	4	4	41	10.3	20	0
Minter, Cedric, Jets	4	2	44	11.0	18	0
Hancock, Anthony, K.C.	3	1	14	4.7	7	0
Bouza, Matt, Ind.	3	3	17	5.7	11	0
Horton, Ray, Cin.	2	0	-1	-0.5	1	0
Bruckner, Nick, Jets	2	0	25	12.5	20	0

INTERCEPTIONS

RECORDS

Number: 13, Lester Hayes, Oakland (1980)
Yards: 349, Charlie McNeil, San Diego (1961)
Longest Return: 102 yards

Gary Barbaro, Kansas City (1977)

Louis Breeden, Cincinnati (1981)

TDs: 4, Ken Houston, Houston (1971)

4, Jim Kearney, Kansas City (1972)

(2 or more)	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Easley, Ken, Sea.	10	126	12.6	158	2
Brown, Dave, Sea.	8	179	22.4	190	2
Cherry, Deron, K.C.	7	140	20.0	67	0
Shell, Donnie, Pitt.	7	61	8.7	152	1
Haynes, Mike, Raiders	6	220	36.7	197	1
Blackwood, Glenn, Mia.	6	169	28.2	50	0
Washington, Sam, Pitt.	6	138	23.0	169	2
Ross, Kevin, K.C.	6	124	20.7	171	1
Foley, Steve, Den.	6	97	16.2	140	1
Harden, Mike, Den.	6	79	13.2	145	1
Harris, John, Sea.	6	79	13.2	29	0
Daniel, Eugene, Ind.	6	25	4.2	18	0
Romes, Charles, Buff.	5	130	26.0	55	0
Gross, Al, Clev.	5	103	20.6	47	0
Woodruff, Dwayne, Pitt.	5	56	11.2	142	1
Dixon, Hanford, Clev.	5	31	6.2	18	0
Byrd, Gill, S.D.	4	157	39.3	199	2
Simpson, Keith, Sea.	4	138	34.5	176	2
Judson, William, Mia.	4	121	30.3	160	1
Breeden, Louis, Cin.	4	96	24.0	70	0
Jackson, Terry, Sea.	4	78	19.5	162	1
Wilson, Steve, Den.	4	59	14.8	22	0
Lewis, Albert, K.C.	4	57	14.3	31	0
Tullis, Willie, Hou.	4	48	12.0	22	0
McElroy, Vann, Raiders	4	42	10.5	31	0
Jackson, Robert, Cin.	4	32	8.0	128	1
Kemp, Bobby, Cin.	4	27	6.8	14	0
Carter, Russell, Jets	4	26	6.5	19	0
Clayborn, Ray, N.E.	3	102	34.0	85	0
Hinkle, Bryan, Pitt.	3	77	25.7	43	0
Randle, Tate, Ind.	3	66	22.0	54	0
Taylor, Terry, Sea.	3	63	21.0	37	0
Lowe, Woodrow, S.D.	3	61	20.3	132	1
Williams, Eric, Pitt.	3	49	16.3	44	0
Horton, Ray, Cin.	3	48	16.0	148	1
Freeman, Steve, Buff.	3	45	5.0	45	0
McNeal, Don, Mia.	3	41	13.7	30	1
Smith, Billy Ray, S.D.	3	41	13.7	21	0
Blackwood, Lyle, Mia.	3	29	9.7	15	0
Lankford, Paul, Mia.	3	25	8.3	22	0
Hartwig, Carter, Hou.	3	23	7.7	19	0
Lippett, Ronnie, N.E.	3	23	7.7	13	0
Krauss, Barry, Ind.	3	20	6.7	18	0
Smith, Dennis, Den.	3	13	4.3	10	0
Carpenter, Brian, Wash.-Buff.	3	11	3.7	11	0
Burroughs, Jim, Ind.	3	9	3.0	6	0
Mecklenburg, Karl, Den.	2	105	52.5	63	0
Robbins, Randy, Den.	2	62	31.0	162	1
Radecki, Scott, K.C.	2	54	27.0	35	1
Ray, Darrol, Jets	2	54	27.0	28	0
King, Linden, S.D.	2	2	26.0	37	0
Simmons, John, Cin.	2	43	21.5	143	1
Turner, John, S.D.	2	43	21.5	43	0
Marion, Fred, N.E.	2	39	19.5	26	0

	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
McAlister, Ken, K.C.	2	33	16.5	22	0
Williams, Reggie, Cin.	2	33	16.5	33	0
Martin, Rod, Raiders	2	31	15.5	17	1
Young, Andre, S.D.	2	31	15.5	31	0
Busick, Steve, Den.	2	21	10.5	16	0
Burruss, Lloyd, K.C.	2	16	8.0	16	0
Lynn, Johnny, Jets	2	16	8.0	16	0
James, Roland, N.E.	2	14	7.0	14	0
Griffin, Ray, Cin.	2	13	6.5	13	0
Schroy, Ken, Jets	2	13	6.5	13	0
Daniels, Calvin, K.C.	2	11	5.5	11	0
Davis, Mike, Raiders	2	11	5.5	11	0
Cousineau, Tom, Clev.	2	9	4.5	9	0
Merriweather, Mike, Pitt.	2	9	4.5	8	0
Buttle, Greg, Jets	2	5	2.5	5	0
Gibson, Ernest, N.E.	2	4	2.0	4	0
Johnson, Eddie, Clev.	2	3	1.5	3	0
Sanford, Rick, N.E.	2	0	1.0	0	0
Woods, Rick, Pitt.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Hill, Greg, K.C.	2	-1	-0.5	0	0

KICKOFF RETURNS

RECORDS

Number: 55, Bruce Harper, New York (1978, 1979)

55, David Turner, Cincinnati (1979)

Yards: 1,317, Bobby Jancik, Houston (1963)

Longest: 106 yards, Noland Smith, Kansas City (1967)

TDs: 3, Ray Clayborn, New England (1977)

	NO	YARDS	AVG	LONG	TD
Humphrey, Bobby, Jets	22	675	30.7	197	1
Williams, Dokie, Raiders	24	621	25.9	62	0
Anderson, Larry, Ind.	22	525	23.9	69	0
Springs, Kirk, Jets	23	521	22.7	73	0
Roaches, Carl, Hou.	30	679	22.6	49	0
James, Lionel, S.D.	43	959	22.3	55	0
Collins, Anthony, N.E.	25	544	21.8	46	0
Montgomery, Cleotha, Raiders	26	555	21.3	42	0
Walker, Fulton, Mia.	29	617	21.3	41	0
Williams, Van, Buff.	39	820	21.0	65	0
Jennings, Stanford, Cin.	22	452	20.5	46	0
Erenberg, Rich, Pitt.	28	575	20.5	47	0
Smith, Phil, Ind.	32	651	20.3	196	1
Paige, Stephon, K.C.	27	544	20.1	45	0
Williams, Jon, N.E.	23	461	20.0	29	0
Byner, Earnest, Clev.	22	415	18.9	28	0
Dixon, Zachary, Sea.	25	446	17.8	36	0
Wilson, Don, Buff.	34	576	16.9	36	0

NON-QUALIFIERS (3 or more)

Lang, Gene, Den.	19	404	21.3	38	0
Smith, J.T., K.C.	19	391	20.6	39	0
Martin, Mike, Cin.	19	386	20.3	44	0
Spencer, Todd, Pitt.	18	373	20.7	40	0
Davis, Bruce, Clev.	18	369	20.5	40	0
Hughes, David, Sea.	17	348	20.5	38	0
Walls, Herkie, Hou.	15	289	19.3	29	0
McGee, Buford, S.D.	14	315	22.5	35	0
Allen, Patrick, Hou.	11	210	19.1	23	0
Bird, Steve, St.L.-S.D.	11	205	18.6	28	0
Minter, Cedric, Jets	10	224	22.4	52	0
Hellin, Vince, Mia.	9	130	14.4	26	0
Morris, Randall, Sea.	8	153	19.1	34	0
Brown, Preston, Clev.	8	136	17.0	27	0
Brooks, James, Cin.	7	144	20.6	37	0
Farley, John, Cin.	6	93	15.5	32	0
Young, Glen, Clev.	5	134	26.8	36	0
Fryar, Irving, N.E.	5	95	19.0	22	0
Williams, Richard, Atl.-Hou.	5	84	16.8	21	0
Ricks, Lawrence, K.C.	5	83	16.6	21	0
White, Charles, Clev.	5	80	16.0	23	0
Kalantzis, Mark, Ind.	5	69	13.8	22	0
Willhite, Gerald, Den.	4	109	27.3	40	0
Wonsley, George, Ind.	4	52	13.0	20	0
Veals, Elton, Pitt.	4	40	10.0	18	0
Joyner, Willie, Hou.	3	57	19.0	24	0
Bryant, Cullen, Sea.	3	53	17.7	21	0
Verser, David, Cin.	3	46	15.3	23	0
Lee, Keith L., N.E.	3	43	14.3	17	0
Robinson, Bo, N.E.	3	38	12.7	14	0
Brown, Steve, Hou.	3	17	5.7	17	0
Pruitt, Greg, Raiders	3	16	5.3	13	0
Paige, Tony, Jets	3	7	2.3	7	0

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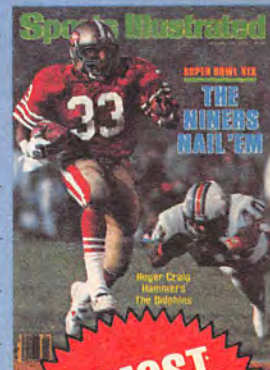
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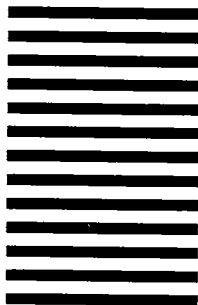
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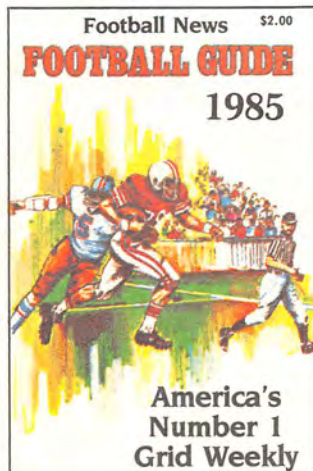
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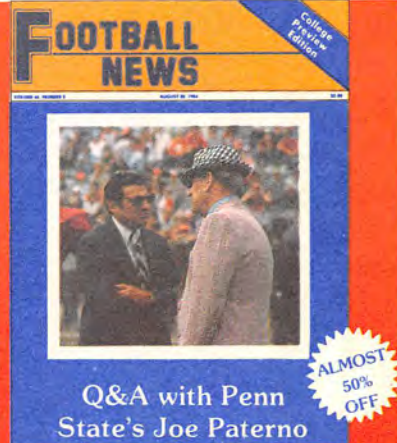
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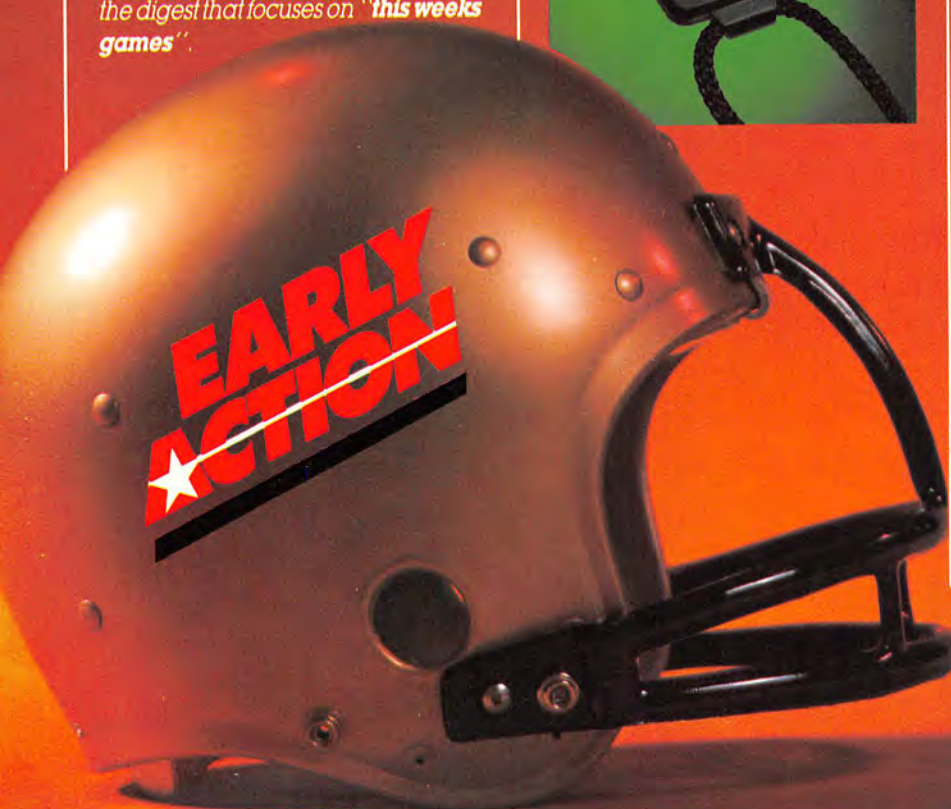
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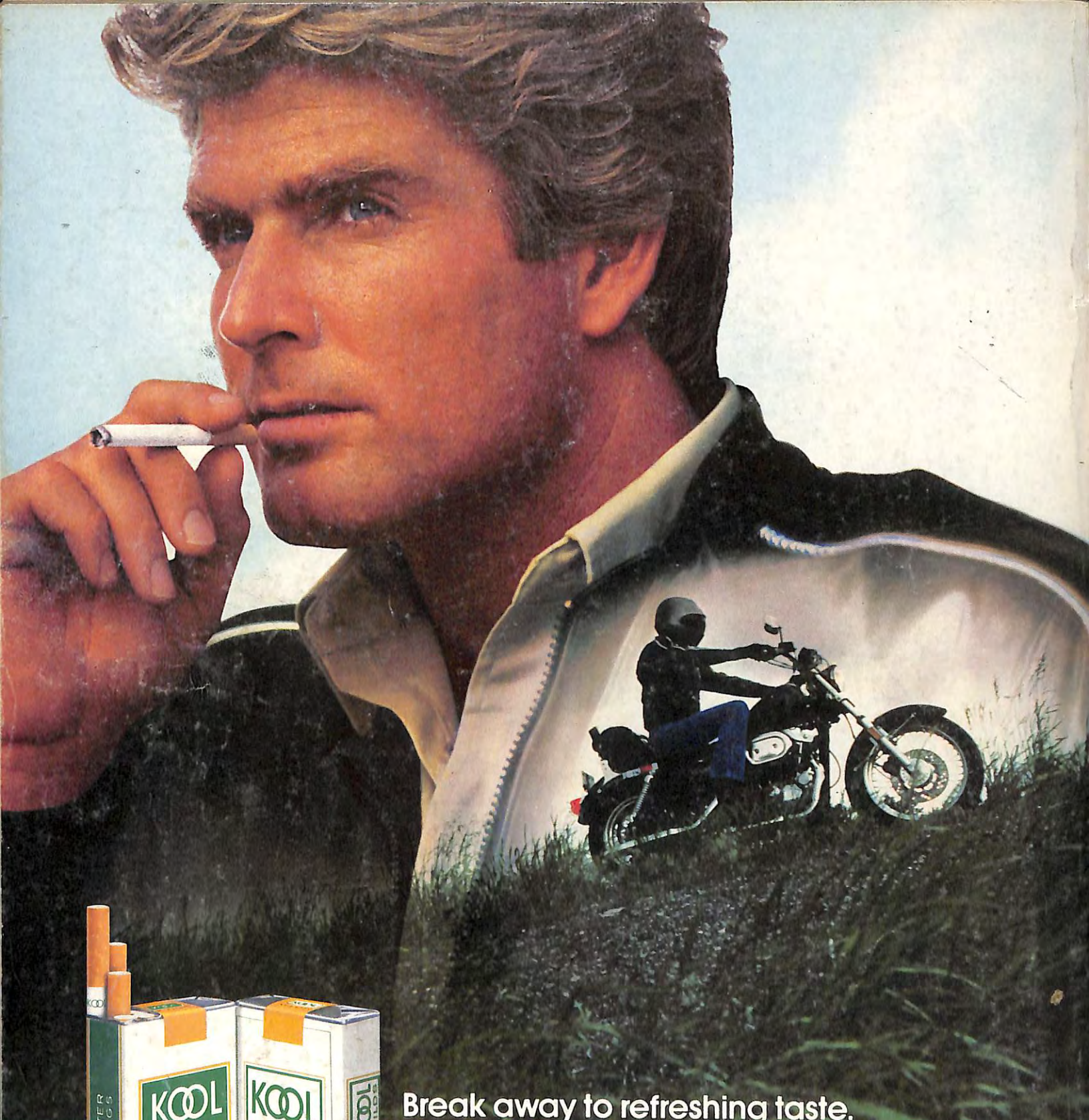
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